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This survey proposes a course of action to overcome the problems currently facing public libraries in Delaware. Included is information on (1)patterns of population, occupational and educational change in the state; (2)public library collections, personnel, finances, and deficiencies; (3)the role of the Library Commission for the State of Delaware; and (4)the objectives, components, services, and funding of a proposed state-wide library system linking district libraries to regional resource centers. A five-phase "action and funding schedule" for this system notes library commission action, legislative action, and costs of the program for each year from 1969 through 1974. Eleven specific recommendations for action are outlined. Appendices include (1)preliminary standards for district library services, (2)proposed law revisions, and (3)a chart of public library funding for fiscal year 1968. (Author/JW)

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DELAWARE
LIBRARY
SURVEY

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DELAWARE LIBRARY SURVEY

A STUDY OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES IN DELAWARE WITH AN ACTION PROPOSAL FOR STATE-WIDE LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT, 1969-1974

By

Frank A. Schneider

Dover
Library Commission for the State of Delaware
and
The Delaware Library Association
May, 1969

FOREWORD

With full realization that an informed citizenry is the key to the preservation of our democracy and the continued well-being of its people a survey of Delaware public libraries was undertaken. The objective of presenting the situation as it is and providing an appropriate course of action to fit public libraries for the task which is uniquely theirs has been pursued.

The Library Commission for the State of Delaware is appreciative of the consideration and cooperation accorded this project by the Delaware Library Association and its President, Christopher B. Devan and the Library Survey Committee of the Association.

The Library Survey Committee of Miss Virginia Bowles, Dover Public Library, Mrs. Louis H. Brown, Newark Free Library and Mrs. Herman Meinersmann, Laurel Public Library assisted in the development of the questionnaire and the booklists which were utilized as investigative devices.

The effort of the many library staff members is recognized as having contributed meaningfully to the endeavor.

A special note of appreciation is extended to Mrs. Bryan Farr who served expertly as project secretary.

Frank A. Schneider

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DELAWARE PUBLIC LIBRARIES HAVE TOO FEW BOOKS

For each resident of Delaware there is the equivalent of 1.16 books in the libraries of the State. However, in Kent County less than half a book per county resident is available. Sussex provides 1.4 book per capita and New Castle County 1.15.

An achievable goal for Delaware is two books per person before 1972.

DELAWARE PUBLIC LIBRARIES LACK ADEQUATE FUNDING

The total funding from Local, State and Federal sources for libraries was $1.71 per capita with a low of 35¢ in one community. In 1956 per capita costs in the United States ranged from $2.60 to $4.41.

A necessary goal for Delaware is $4.00 per capita.[1]

DELAWARE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICTS DO NOT SERVE ALL DELAWAREANS

Approximately 50% of the population of Delaware resides in districts which do not provide district public library service.

Public library services for all Delaware school children and adults is necessary.

DELAWARE PUBLIC LIBRARIES ARE POORLY HOUSED

Seven of Delaware's nineteen public libraries are housed in buildings planned for libraries.

Library buildings must be appropriate to library services if they are to serve the library needs of Delawareans.

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[1] American Library Association, Costs of Public Library Service in 1956 (Chicago, American Library Association, 1957).

DELAWARE PUBLIC LIBRARIES ARE OPEN TOO FEW HOURS

Eight of Delaware's libraries provide service for fewer than nine hours per week.

An achievable goal is providing a minimum of a 25-hour service period.

DELAWARE PUBLIC LIBRARIES ARE UNDERSTAFFED

No public library in Delaware is adequately staffed.

A minimum goal for Delaware is one staff member for each 4,000 people to be served.

DELAWARE LACKS AN ORGANIZED SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES LINKING ALL RESOURCES AND FACILITIES TO SERVE DELAWAREANS ADEQUATELY

Delaware libraries must be enabled to provide an organizational structure which will increase the availability and accessiblity to all Delaware library resources.

CHAPTER I

DELAWARE LIBRARY SURVEY

INTRODUCTION

The public library effort in the State of Delaware in 1969 is a study of the mismatch between minimal library services and resources available versus library resources and services which are required to serve the needs of Delaware's citizenry. Despite a lengthy history of library service, apparently beginning in Wilmington in 1754, there is not one public library which presently provides library services which satisfy minimum standards of adequacy. In spite of the diligent endeavors of legislators, laymen, and professionals alike, Delaware lacks a caliber of library services required by the citizenry of a progressive state in order to assist each individual to facilitate his individual development and to enable him to function meaningfully in the milieu of complexity which characterizes his life in 1969.

The study which follows suggests the current state of inadequacy and indicates the need for funding the public library effort to enable this educational endeavor to enter the mainstream of Delaware life and culture to the end that each of us may become intellectually responsible and capable of participating fully in the ever-changing society which is ours.

The need for resources, human and material, to adequately staff and serve all Delaware library patrons is a desperate one. No service agency exists in a vacuum free from the influences of its environment. The environment provides the resources, generates the demands to which the library is expected to respond, provides service and growth opportunities and establishes limits or constraints upon the agency. The result of the environmental constraint is most obvious when one considers the overpowering financial restraints which have developed through the years to limit the growth and development of a meaningful public library endeavor in Delaware.

Delaware and its citizenry can point with pride to the development and support of a system of public education which insures its youngsters the opportunity to gain worthwhile experiences necessary for participating responsibly in the American way of life. Based upon present costs per youngster, per year, of $652 the total cost for twelve years schooling per pupil is equal to $7,824.[2] The per capita funding (local, state and federal sources) for the public library endeavor in 1967-68 was $1.71. Were the $1.71 to remain constant an expenditure of $85.50 would then be made during the next fifty years to provide him with the public library facility and materials to fully utilize and extend this education. This too low funding level has retarded the growth and development of Delaware's public library effort.

The orderly development of public libraries to a status of adequacy to render vital services to Delawareans requires an imput of financial assistance and a creative restructuring of library organization. Delaware libraries must be prepared to meet the problems generated from the many-faceted features of population change. All educational service agencies, will of necessity, be required to offer a vast array of educational, technical and vocational resources and programs to respond to the employment problems generated by rapid technological and social change. The dual trends of rising income and increased leisure time provide increased opportunities for Delaware citizens to participate in meaningful, individual self-development.

If Delaware public libraries are to encourage and accommodate participation in life-long, individual self-improvement the foundation currently existing may be utilized and built upon.

The following study provides an indication of the present status of Delaware public libraries accompanied with a proposal for legislative action to permit a more adequate level of funding and a restructuring of the library programs as an agency to serve people.

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[2] Delaware Department of Public Instruction, Annual Report 67-68, Statistical Section (The Department, Dover, Delaware, 1968), Table 2, p.2.

DELAWARE IN AN AGE OF CHANGE

Delaware is being influenced by phenomena which are national, if not international, in scope and the effects are being felt in all areas of the activities of her populace. As Delaware progresses rapidly toward the year 2000 her citizens daily experience life in a society which has become highly industrialized, urbanized and automated. The life style of Delawareans has undergone change of some magnitude but the rate and extent of change yet to be experienced taxes the most fertile imagination.

It appears necessary to outline rather briefly three areas in which change has been documented and the trends forecasted for Delaware and its people in the near future. These areas include population, occupational, and educational change which are in no little way associated with the need for public library service.

Population Change

During the first sixty years of the twentieth century Delaware experienced a continuous population increase of 142 per cent. In the decade between 1950-1960 a 40 per cent population increase qualified Delaware as the fifth fastest growing state in the Nation. In the seven year period following 1960 Delaware's population has risen from 446,292 to 524,421 or 17.5 per cent. Population projections suggest a population of 835,000 by 1980.[3]

Population increases of the magnitude indicated provide a source for social and economic dislocations experienced in some measure by all Delawareans. Traditionally suburbs tended to feed persons into the urban center. Increasingly, that pattern has been modified until now we view wage-earners residing in one suburb and working in another.

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[3] Delaware State Planning Office, Population in Delaware (Dover: The Planning Office, 1965), p. 21.

People who previously depended upon the center city for satisfaction of their social, economic and educational needs are no longer residents of the area in which they work.

Not unimportant is the changing color composition and the age structure of population groups inhabiting the larger and older city. Wilmington provides an indication of an experience being shared throughout the United States by the large population centers. In 1960 about one in four persons was non-white in Wilmington; however, by 1980 the non-white population will equal three of each four residents.

TABLE 1

STATE OF DELAWARE POPULATION CHANGE[4]

Year	White Number	Change	Non-White Number	Change	Number	Change
1950	273,878	-	44,207	-	318,085	-
1960	384,327	40.0%	61,965	40.0%	446,292	40.0%
1967	449,512	17.0%	76,902	24.1%	526,414	18.0%

TABLE 2

STATE OF DELAWARE POPULATION DISTRIBUTION[5]

Age Group	White 1960	White 1967	Non-White 1960	Non-White 1967
Under 5	10.1%	9.4%	16.2%	12.8%
5 - 19	27.1	29.7	30.7	35.5
20 - 29	17.9	14.0	12.5	12.8
30 - 39	15.4	12.6	13.4	11.7
40 - 64	21.8	26.2	21.7	21.5
65 and over	5.3	8.1	5.5	5.7
Totals	100.0% 384,327	100.0% 449,512	100.0% 61,965	100.0% 76,902
Median Age	28.3	26.5	23.7	20.4

4 and 5
Delaware State Planning Office, *Delaware's Population, 1967; A Summary Report of the Special Census* (Dover: The Planning Office, February, 1968), p.2.

Four important trends appear in the preceding tables, the percentage increase in the non-white population was greater than that of the white population, the percentage increase of non-whites in age groups under five to age nineteen is greater than is the percentage increase of white in the same age group, the percentage increase of whites in the sixty-five and over age group is greater than that experienced by the non-white group and, most importantly, the median age in each group has been lowered rather sharply.

Of utmost significance in the above for educational and social institutions is the fact that large numbers of persons who have not participated advantageously in the affluent society, and are not highly literate and technically skilled, have relocated in the central city and throughout Delaware and present a different array of social and economic problems and a pressing challenge to governing bodies for an equitable resolution of a multitude of human problems.

Occupational Change

The pervasive influence of the multi-faceted ramifications of industrialization has brought major changes to our occupational structure and most of the members of the labor force. The rate of change which has accompanied mechanization, and now automation, has been accelerated and as a consequence the dislocations experienced by individuals and groups have been accentuated. This rapid technological development has been accompanied throughout Delaware by significant changes in agriculture and the trend has created a significant reduction in the number of positions available to unskilled workers.

It is estimated that eight of every ten persons still on the farm will move to urban centers. In moving into the urban labor market these unskilled white and non-whites join a crop of city-bred young people who offer limited skills to a market requiring not hand and back power but a fairly advanced brain power capability. The impact of this movement upon the individuals involved and the communities in which they reside, and to which they will migrate, requires recognition and planning to reduce the magnitude of human frustration which accompanies living unfulfilled lives in a nation requiring each individual to reach his potential.

Not unimportant to considerations of occupational shifts are additional factors which are operative to create significant changes. Among these factors is increased automobile ownership and the improvement of transporation and communication facilities reducing the time-distance relationship between the employment centers, central business districts and suburban areas. The value-orientation of all Delawareans has been influenced to reinforce the desire to reside in suburban areas in which new houses, open space, increased privacy and a more desirable child-rearing environment is provided. Other important factors inducing the movement to the suburbs include the decreasing supply of available land at a cost not prohibitive to residential construction, urban renewal, and highway construction programs.

It is necessary to suggest that the skilled worker has also experienced hardships in this milieu of change. Increasingly technological change, compounded by economic and population shifts has created problems of obsolescence of skill requiring advanced training or retraining. The development of the Delaware Technical and Community College has to a degree lessened the magnitude of this problem and speaks well for Delaware's recognition of the needs of its citizens. Governing bodies sensitive to the complex and changing needs of constitutencies must react realistically and creatively to the new challenges currently arising.

Educational Changes

The educational level of the inhabitants of a specified area is often indicative of the socio-economic functioning of the area. As a function of the states and the local entities the education of young and old alike has been the object of renewed attention and emphasis throughout the

United States since the latter part of the 1950's. The result, in Delaware, is that, "In general, the population of Delaware is becoming better educated, more technically trained, and increasingly mobile."[6]

The term "becoming better educated" requires consideration of at least two facets. Is the change rapid enough? Is the level presently achieved commensurate with the educational levels required for occupational placement and for leading a full and responsible life in this era? The reader is called upon to render his judgment inasmuch as information is not available which would supply an answer to these questions.

The following table will provide an indication of the level of educational attainment for the residents of each county and of Wilmington between 1950 and 1960 according to white and non-white composition of the population.

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[6] Population in Delaware, p. 60.

TABLE 3

MEDIAN YEARS OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT FOR PERSONS 25 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER BY COLOR FOR NEW CASTLE, KENT AND SUSSEX COUNTIES AND WILMINGTON 1950 AND 1960[7]

	White		Non-White	
Sussex County Median yrs. completed	1950 - 9.2	1960 - 10.4	1950 - 6.2	1960 - 7.3
Kent County Median yrs. completed	1950 - 9.4	1960 - 11.1	1950 - 7.0	1960 - 8.1
New Castle County Median yrs. completed	1950 - 9.3	1960 - 12.0	1950 - 5.2	1960 - 8.6
Wilmington Median yrs. completed	1950 - 10.2	1960 - 10.3	1950 - 7.8	1960 - 8.9

It is important to indicate that the above information refers to persons 25 years of age or older and that the information was extracted from Population in Delaware published in 1965 in which a full presentation is available. Without fear of contradiction the above suggests that the level of educational attainment of Delawareans is rising and it is important that all segments of the population are experiencing this attainment.

There is a serious question as to the imbalance existing between the white and non-white components of the population. However, significant programs initiated since 1960 have attempted to modify this situation.

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[7] Population in Delaware. pp. 61,79, 94.

It is important to note that in 1965 the average educational level of the work force in Ohio exceeded 12 years.[8]

A significant objective of a public educational program concerns itself with the preparation of persons for employment to meet the needs of that society. A Delaware State Planning Office publication indicated,

> The improved educational levels were some what reflected in the changes in the structure of the labor force between 1950 and 1960. There was some increase in the proportions of those persons in the better paying, higher status jobs, and a decrease in the lower income, lower status jobs.[9]

The educational needs of Delawareans are greatly influenced by the population and industrial shifts taking place. There is evidence of the positive results obtained by programs dedicated to the education of all citizens. There is positive need to use all educational and cultural institutions and facilities available to permit the individual to improve his status in our complex society.

Delaware's Future

The significant changes in the occupational, educational and population factors in Delaware constitute but three of the dramatic and far reaching movements of the future which today demand attention of those of us who would control change rather than hope to experience it submissively.

The rapidly changing scene of life and activity in Delaware is also of prime significance as it relates to Delaware's role and function in the American economy of today and tomorrow. The standard of living desired by most Americans today challenges the leaders they select to arrange for the production of goods and services in order to provide full employment and higher income levels. Delawareans are not without these aspirations.

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[8] Blasingame, Ralph. Survey of Ohio Libraries and State Library Services (Columbus: State Library of Ohio, 1968), p. 6.

[9] Population in Delaware, p. 81.

Very important to Delaware citizens and leaders alike is the strategic location of Delaware relative to the establishment of new industry in the period immediately upon us. Delawareans are aware that the growth of the megalopolis along the Eastern Seaboard has positioned Delaware very close to the geographic center of this vital industrial marketing complex.

> Location is almost certainly Delaware's most important asset from the point of view of industry. The locational advantage is enhanced by a transportation complex of rails, highways, and in the northern sector a marine port, all of which serve to link the State with major resource and consumer markets in all directions. Another advantage, which industry seeking to locate in Delaware will find, is an adequate supply of good labor. A final significant advantage is the long-established reputation of a healthy and friendly business climate.[10]

Despite the obvious advantages of location, adequate labor supply and governmental receptivity to industry, the Delaware Economy suggests,

> Perhaps the most obvious and most serious barrier is the lack of community facilities in towns and areas which are otherwise ideally

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[10] Community Economic Profiles and Industrial Location in Delaware (Newark: Division of Urban Affairs, University of Delaware, April, 1965), p. 1.

> situated. ...these community facilities should not be developed solely to attract new industry; they should be provided for benefit of all citizens of the community.[11]

The task facing Delawareans is one of controlling change. Uncontrolled change, or change for the sake of change, cannot be long endured by a society which must plan the effective utilization of human and material resources to achieve its goals in terms of satisfying individual human needs and expectations.

State and local governments are fully capable of exercising responsibility under the Tenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution for the education of the citizenry. All levels of government have a responsibility to provide institutions which have as their goal the provision and dissemination of information to assist in orienting the user to an understanding of his problem and the rational solutions he may embrace to secure a mastery over the problems which are his.

The mass media today provide an astounding capability for the dissemination of information. It is rather obvious however, that the information is provided by a supplier whose basic concern is, and rightfully so, the dissemination of information for reasons related to a profit oriented enterprise. The dissemination of information via mass media provides the context in which the entrepreneur message is projected. The value of the information made known and the needs of the individual receptor are at best coincidental. The public library alone stands as a user-oriented supply of information; receptive to the user when, and how, he desires to use it. Further, the public library accepts the obligation to make available the information representative of the various facets of issues of interest and necessity to the library patron. The patron is also enabled to request that information which meets his needs and to a great degree is able to influence the store of information and its availability to him.

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[11] Delaware State Planning Office, The Delaware Economy (Newark: University of Delaware, Division of Urban Affairs, April, 1965), p. 104.

CHAPTER II

DESIGN OF THE SURVEY

Origin of the Study

The Library Commission for the State of Delaware, the Delaware Library Association, the Delaware Library Trustees Association and a host of citizens interested in the public library as an educational endeavor required dependable and current information concerning the state of library service in Delaware. Utilizing funds available to it under the Library Services and Construction Act,1966, the Library Commission entered into an agreement with the Delaware Library Association to prepare and conduct a survey.

Purpose

In the wake of the state-wide survey conducted by John and James Humphry in 1966[12] some progress in the development of public library service has been noted. However, the blueprint provided in the Humphry Survey did not provide for funding required for local community libraries nor for the county library in operation since its founding 20 years ago. Further, the provisions of the Delaware Code Annotated have tended to restrict the funding and continued development of library service. Preliminary to developing proposed legislative revisions the survey was conducted to provide information necessary to the development of a meaningful legislative proposal.

The objectives of this study were to investigate selected aspects of district public library service including the quality and quantity of fiscal, book, staff and building resources. Additional objectives were to develop proposed revisions to the Delaware Code Annotated, prepare a proposed set of standards to guide Delaware public library service development and to present a proposed state-wide library system concept.

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[12] Humphry, John and James, Library Service in Delaware (New York, 1966), p. 77.

Procedures

The Library Commission for the State of Delaware proposed that the Delaware Library Association through its Development Committee enter into an agreement to conduct the survey in a cooperative effort with the staff of the Commission. The Executive Board of the Delaware Library Association agreed on June 12, 1968.

A series of questionnaires was developed through the assistance of the Delaware Library Association Development Committee. The questionnaires were mailed to each library. In instances requiring further assistance members of the Development Committee and the Library Commission staff visited the district library and carried on the investigation.

A total of eighteen of Delaware's public libraries have cooperated and are represented in the study.

Design of the Survey

The Development Committee of the Delaware Library Association utilized the Annual Report of the Library Commission to ascertain the public libraries having status as public libraries by virtue either of the Laws of Delaware or participation in programs funded through and supervised by the Library Commission. To supplement the information available from the Annual Reports a questionnaire was designed to provide for the collection of data of a quantitative nature. A series of five booklists representative of highly desirable books in various subject and interest areas was devised and library book collections were checked against this listing. An indication of a qualitative nature was provided as a result of this device.

The data were collected by a combination of efforts including questionnaires, and booklists. In selected instances, booklists and questionnaires were forwarded to the library; in others, because of acknoqledged personnel shortage, staff of the Commission visited the library and undertook the investigation.

Need for Library Services

The public library in Delaware is a partner in the vital task of educating young and old alike. Not unlike the more formal educational ventures from kindergarten through graduate school the public library system shares in the responsibility of Delaware to educate its citizens. However, public library programs are unique in that they serve each citizen as an individual seeking knowledge on his initiative.

Informed individuals are the key to the well-being of any State or Community. To the extent that Delaware residents have free and ready access to knowledge and information, the various needs and problems of the communities and the state can be met. Lacking the availability of library resources all private and governmental efforts will be limited in effectiveness.

The individuals of the First State produce wealth, contribute to culture and determine the vote. The adequate public library in the community serves to facilitate the development of the individual with understanding so that he is able to function meaningfully in a milieu of complexity.

For all its modest nature and relatively low cost, it is the public library that is uniquely the agency for informing individuals. No other educational agency serves the individual in his day-to-day activities throughout his lifetime as does the public library.

The public library is the people's library, providing information and knowledge each individual requires as he maintains a home, holds a job, or prepares to cast his vote. The panoramic store of information provided by the library lends guidance in the multitude of activities ranging from the purchase of a house, the cooking of foods, and the preparation for school and vocation.

Adequate library resources are necessary in Delaware for the continued economic, industrial and social development of the State and its individual citizens.

Delaware's population increase has been quickening and during the period from 1960-67 has been characterized by a 17.5% increase. Accompanying this population growth is an unprecedented demand for public services of all kinds, including public libraries. The libraries of Delaware, in common with various other "people" services have been unable to keep abreast of the needs of the people.

In its quest to attract desirable light manufacturing interests to Delaware to provide an economic base sufficient to support the burgeoning population, Delaware communities must provide advanatages for the industry and for the work force. Not unimportant in the considerations relevant to plant relocation is the access to educational institutions and libraries vital to the research efforts of the industry and to the lifelong educational needs of its work force.

Delaware's Greatest Resource is her People

The development of the State of Delaware cannot exceed the capability of its citizenry to participate meaningfully in the affairs of the community and of the State. To the extent that Delaware citizens are handicapped by lack of education and information, the State is restricted in its growth and development. Improved library service for all Delawareans is a necessary and achievable goal.

CHAPTER III

DELAWARE'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The public libraries of Delaware defy easy categorization according to their functions, organization, programs and management. Legal statutes provide the basis for the organization and operation of district libraries. District refers to the school district in which the library is located, the geographical area served, and to the source of local funding which supports the library in eight instances and is available to all other district public libraries established under legal provisions. The largest public library, the Wilmington Institute Free Library is not a school district library nor is the Corbit Library Association in Odessa which receives a grant-in-aid in accord with the State statutes and serves the smallest constituency in Delaware. The diversity is further emphasized by the establishment and long-term operation of the New Castle County Free Library which is not referred to in the Delaware Code provisions regarding district public libraries.

In spite of the magnitude of the individual variations in size and organization various representative factors do lend themselves to evaluation and analysis. Among these are the population served, budget provided, resource materials, personnel available, and physical facilities. These and other pertinent factors were considered in depth to provide information basic to proposed revision of Delaware Library Law and the establishment of state-wide public library service.

The following Table indicates the comparative size of all Delaware public library service units.

TABLE 4

POPULATION SERVED

Population Served	Number of Libraries
300,000 and over	1
50,000 - 60,000	1
30,000 - 40,000	1
26,000 - 29,999	1
15,000 - 20,000	1
10,000 - 14,999	3
7,000 - 9,500	4
5,000 - 5,500	2
2,000 - 4,000	3
Under 1,000	1
Total	18

Delaware's public libraries may be classed as small public libraries, three quarters of which serve populations of less than 15,000. The library serving over 300,000 is a county and public library combined, the only one of its kind in Delaware.

The public libraries of Delaware are established as district libraries within the geographical area of the school district. Progress has been made to reduce the number of school districts through the enactment of the Educational Advancement Act. Following July 1, 1969 a total of twenty-one reorganized school districts will be established. One newly consolidated district will include three public libraries while as many as three school districts have been combined into one district presently not providing any district public library service. One school district enrolling in excess of 7,000 youngsters is without district public library facilities or services.

TABLE 5

AVAILABILITY OF SCHOOL DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARIES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLEES, 1967-68, BY COUNTY

County	Pupils Served	Number of Pupils in County
New Castle County*	38,656	76,233
Kent County	11,060	21,822
Sussex County	13,278	17,534
Totals	62,994	115,589

37,567 or 50% of public school enrollees in New Castle County do not have school district public libraries available.

11,762 or 50% of public school enrollees in Kent County do not have school district public libraries available.

4,256 or 26% of public school enrollees in Sussex County do not have school district public libraries available.

Approximately 46% of public school enrolled youngsters were without school district public library service 1967-68.

It is appropriate to suggest that approximately 50% of the adult population of Delaware is without school district public library service.

*New Castle County Free Public Library serves all of that county from two branch libraries and the Wilmington Institute Free Library. However, neither library is considered a school district public library. Delaware district public library laws do not provide for State grants-in-aid to libraries other than those which are district public libraries.

Conclusion

The preceding tables suggest rather pointedly that one-half of Delaware's population is not receiving local district public library service; and, with the exception of the four libraries serving populations in excess of 20,000, the remaining fourteen libraries are of such relatively small size to make provision of adequate library service a difficult, if not unattainable, task. An additional problem is the uneven geographic distribution of library locations as regards population distribution. District public libraries are not available in various districts in which the concentration of population is high.

It is desirable that public library service be available to all citizens within a 15 or 20 minute drive or in close proximity to available transportation by public conveyance.

Book Collections of Delaware Public Libraries

The following representations suggest pertinent information regarding the quality and quantity of book collections available to the library public, the number of new books added during 1967-68, and the circulation of materials experienced by public libraries.

TABLE 6

BOOKS IN ALL COLLECTIONS, 1967-68

Number Of Books	Number Of Libraries
350,000 and over	1
20,000 - 29,999	3
15,000 - 19,999	3
10,000 - 13,999	3
6,000 - 9,999	6
Less than 4,500	3

The above Table indicates that Delaware public libraries are, in the main, small public libraries providing fewer than 30,000 volumes in eighteen of nineteen public library service outlets.

In 1956 the American Library Association suggested that there should be available at least 100,000 volumes of currently-useful printed materials in a library system.[13] Lacking coordination in a system the above libraries, with the exception of one, do not have available a sufficient quantity of library books to support the reading and research needs of the public library.

The standard suggested in 1966 indicates that a total system collection should comprise resources of at least 2 to 4 volumes per capita. [14]

It is apparent that Delawareans dependent upon small libraries receive a significantly lower level of book service than do those patrons who have access to the resources of the larger library system. It is important that the larger resources be made accessible and available to all Delaware library users requiring these materials.

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[13] American Library Association, Public Library Service: A Guide to Evaluation with Minimum Standards (Chicago: American Library Association, 1956) p. 36.

[14] American Library Association, Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems, 1966 (Chicago: American Library Association, 1967), p. 42.

TABLE 7

BOOKS PER CAPITA IN ALL COLLECTIONS, 1967-68

Books Per Capita	Number of Libraries
17.5 and over	1
2.0 - 2.9	4
1.1 - 1.9	8
.5 - .9	2
Less than .5	3

There are five public libraries which provide two books per capita. However, in each instance the population residing in the service area is less than 9,500. It is interesting that the library providing the greatest number of books per capita serves a population of less than 1,000 persons.

The three libraries serving the largest populations range from .32 to 1.3 books available per capita well below the minimum levels of adequacy.

TABLE 8

BOOK STOCK OF ALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1967-68, BY COUNTY

County	Volumes	Volumes Per Capita
New Castle County	453,860	1.15
Kent County	34,029	.4
Sussex County	122,118	1.14

To serve Delaware's total population of 524,421 during 1967-68 there were 1.16 volumes per capita available.

It is important to indicate the very strong need to increase significantly the size of the book collections in all libraries of the State. To provide three books per capita (based upon the 1967 Census) a total of 964,935 books is required.

TABLE 9

NEW BOOKS ADDED IN ALL PUBLIC LIBRARY COLLECTIONS, 1967-68, PER CAPITA

New Books Added Per Capita	Number of Libraries
.50 and over	1
.30 - .21	4
.15 - .10	4
Less than .09	8

The range for books added to collections extended from a high of one-half book to a low of two hundredths (.02) of a book per capita.

One library (that with the fewest constitutents) provided one-half of a newly added book per capita. Sixteen libraries provided less than one-third of a book per capita. Almost half (8) of the libraries added less than one-tenth of a new book per capita during 1967-68.

It is apparent from the above that the rate at which new library materials are added to currently inadequate book collections is infinitisimal as regards needs. At this rate public library book collections are rapidly becoming obsolescent with extremely limited opportunity for renewal. To meet the needs of library patrons in 1969 a book collection must be or become a vital one to its patrons. An adequate collection requires the addition of at least one-tenth of a volume per capita after the collection has exceeded the minimum size of 100,000 volumes.

The suggested rate of withdrawal of materials from a collection is five percent per year.[15] The present book collections plus the small number of books added per year minus the five percent withdrawal would suggest that Delaware's library collections are becoming increasingly inadequate.

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[15] American Library Association, Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems, p. 40.

PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK HOLDINGS

The book collections of twelve public libraries were extensively investigated using the five booklists prepared by the Survey Committee as being representative of worthwhile books to be included in a collection capable of supporting the informational and educational needs of library patrons.

The Public Libraries Reference List was composed of 291 titles. Seven of the twelve libraries possessed fewer than forty percent of the titles listed. One library had acquired in excess of eighty percent of the titles.

The Public Libraries Adult Titles List composed of distinguished fiction and non-fiction books published since 1942 contained 334 titles. Nine of the twelve public libraries had available in the card catalog fewer than sixty percent of the listings.

A list of 121 books considered as a basic collection for library patrons from kindergarten through the eighth grade was utilized and results indicated that nine libraries had acquired fewer than sixty percent of the titles indicated as desirable.

The high school library users list of 91 books when collections were compared against it indicated that seven libraries had acquired in excess of sixty percent of the titles listed.

The use of the Reference Booklist for library users from kindergarten through the twelfth grade and comprised of 44 titles indicated that nine of twelve libraries had obtained and were providing fewer than sixty percent of the titles for their users.

The quality of the book collections of the public libraries, based upon the evaluation to which the collections were subjected, is inadequate to the purpose they serve, namely, providing adequate informational and educational resources for library users.

TABLE 10

PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK HOLDINGS

	PERCENT OF TITLES OWNED BY LIBRARY						PERCENT NOT AVAILABLE					
	Under 20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80-100	T*	Under 20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80-100	T*
Public Libraries Reference Holdings	3	4	1	3	1	12	1	3	1	4	3	12
Public Libraries Adult Titles		6	3	2	1	12	1	2	3	6		12
Basic Book Collection Grades K through 8	2	3	4	1	2	12	2	1	4	3	2	12
High School Booklist		1	4	3	4	12	4	3	4	1		12
Reference Booklist K through 12	2	3	4	1	2	12	2	1	4	3	2	12

The collections of twelve of the eighteen Delaware Public Libraries were evaluated using the Booklists.
These libraries were: Claymont, Corbit, Dover, Laurel, Middletown, Milford, Newark, New Castle, Rehoboth, Seaford, Wilmington-New Castle County and The Library Commission for the Delaware.

TABLE 11

BOOK CIRCULATION PER CAPITA, 1967-68, ALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Books Circulated Per Capita	Number of Libraries
6.1 or more	1
4.1 - 5.06	4
2.3 - 2.8	4
1.1 - 1.8	7
Less than .8	2

The range extended downward from 6.1 to .8 books circulated per capita.

The circulation enjoyed by thirteen of the above libraries is below the National average of 4.44 in 1962, the latest statistic available for public libraries serving populations in excess of 35,000.[16]

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[16] *The Bowker Annual of Library and Book Trade Information, 1967* (New York: R. R. Bowker, 1967), p. 62.

Conclusion

1. Delaware's district public libraries serve less than 50% of the total population of Delaware.

2. The quality of the book collections is inadequate to serve the informational and educational requirements of library users.

3. With the exception of The Wilmington Institute- New Castle County Free Library no library contains 30,000 volumes or more.

4. With the exception of the library serving the least numerous constituency no library contains three books per capita in its collection. The volumes per capita for all Delaware public libraries including Wilmington and the New Castle County Free Library is 1.16.

5. To provide a minimally adequate book resource of three books per capita a total of 964,935 additional books is required.

6. The estimated cost of (4) above in 1969-70 would total $5,789,610.00 at $6.00 per book.

7. With the exception of the library serving the smallest constituency no library added one-third of a book to its collection during 1967-68.

8. Five libraries of twenty approached or exceeded the national average of 4.4 books circulated per capita.

DELAWARE DISTRICT LIBRARIES ARE INADEQUATE TO SERVE THE LIBRARY PUBLIC BASED UPON LOCATION, BOOK COLLECTION SIZE AND QUALITY, AND ANNUAL ADDITION OF BOOKS TO THE COLLECTIONS.

Personnel

The personnel situation in the interim between the Humphry survey and the present effort has become worsened in spite of the many efforts to recruit capable personnel to Delaware.

The Humphry's indicated,

> "...there are only 24 professionally trained librarians employed in the community libraries of Delaware and in the State Library. In examining the standard which prescribes one professional librarian for each town having more than 2,500 residents, it is obvious that many community libraries will not, on this basis, require the services of professional librarians. This situation points to the need and desirability of establishing the system library concept, which encompasses a greater area and larger population, in order to justify the services of a professionally trained librarian to direct the program.
>
> The community libraries are hampered by the lack of sound personnel practice. In some instances, commissioners are serving as librarians. There must be a separation of duties and responsibilities as they relate to the members of the commission and the library staff. Each has a specific function to perform, and that function must be clearly defined.
>
> The successful operation of a library requires in its administrator a forceful, well-informed person with a college degree and a degree from an accredited library school; the love of books and an interest in people are no longer the only qualifications required for library work. The emphasis placed on educational qualifications for professional library personnel has served to advance the concept and recognition of library service. Implementation of this concept will result in a higher level of library service for the people of Delaware.

> The shortage of professionally qualified librarians, however, need not prevent libraries within the State from attempting to meet such a goal. The State Library has assumed a role of leadership in attempting to relieve the critical shortage of professionally trained librarians. Some of the funds the State Library receives through the Federal Library Service and Construction Act are available on a contract basis to encourage community libraries to hire qualified college graduates and allow them to pursue a work-study program in library science at an accredited school of librarianship. The implementation of this program would lead to the eventual staffing of libraries with qualified professional personnel.
>
> The establishment of interesting opportunities and challenges for community libraries will help in recruiting professionally qualified librarians. The so-called fringe benefits, together with the adoption of acceptable and competitive salary scales, must be given high priority. The adoption of standards, including certification of professional personnel, will serve as a guide to the commissioners in their formulation of programs throughout Delaware. In order to work toward the goal, financial support from the State, as well as from local governmental units, must be forthcoming. Further, these comments should not be construed in any way as criticism of the many loyal and competent commissioners and librarians presently serving their communities.[17]

The lack of personnel continues and at present the number of professionally trained librarians employed in the public community libraries of Delaware and the State Library is 25 or one per each 22,000 people in the State.

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[17] Humphry and Humphry, Library Service in Delaware, p. 11, 12.

New Castle County public libraries employ 18 and 1/2 professionally trained librarians, Kent County and the State Library 5 and 1/2 and Sussex County 1. It is obvious that there are too few available and their distribution throughout the area is unequal. The shortage of qualified personnel influences all activities undertaken by public libraries in Delaware. As suggested above by the Humphrys' the creation of a statewide system would tend to reduce this very real barrier to library development.

TABLE 12

FUNDING OF ALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES FROM ALL GOVERNMENT SOURCES 1967-68, BY COUNTY (NOT INCLUDING IN-KIND SERVICES VALUE)

	Local	State	Federal	Total
Kent	$ 57,700.	$ 6,933.	$ 4,590.	$ 69,223.
Sussex	74,979.	14,542.	13,970.	103,491.
New Castle	750,919.*	12,265.	49,680.	812,864.
Total	$883,598	$33,740.	$68,240.	$985,578.

*Wilmington Institute Free Library...$ 275,550
New Castle County Free Library......$ 333,633

1967-68
Per Capita funding in New Castle Co. was $2.13
Per Capita funding in Kent County was 64 cents.
Per Capita funding in Sussex County was 89 cents.

The per Capita funding from all sources for the public libraries of the State of Delaware was $1.71.

A recommended funding per capita is $4.00

The present funding of public libraries is inadequate and a systematic arrangement for a mix of local, state and federal funding is necessary if the public libraries are to experience the growth and development necessary to meet the library needs of Delawareans.

TABLE 13

FINANCES AND FUNDING OF ALL SCHOOL DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARIES

TAX RATES AND ESTIMATED TAX COLLECTIONS FOR DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1967-68[18]

District	Assessed Valuation	Real Estate Rate	Real Estate Amount	Total Amount
Dover	$ 76,928,660	$.08	$ 61,543	$61,543
Laurel	16,378,254	.03	4,913	4,193
Lewes	15,755,517	.01	1,576	1,576
Middletown	19,123,200	.03	5,737	5,737
Milford	27,446,721	.04	10,979	10,979
Newark	149,843,800	.03	44,953	44,953
Rehoboth	28,979,655	.015	4,347	4,347
Seaford	33,932,018	.05	16,966	16,966
Totals	$368,387,825	$.42	$151,014	$151,014

In Kent and Sussex Counties in 1967-68 the total assessed value of real estate was $408,984,036 of which $199,420,825 was taxed for purposes of district public library support. Less than fifty percent of the assessed valuation of real estate in Kent and Sussex Counties has been utilized to support this vital public institution. Fewer than half of the public library commissions in Delaware were receiving tax support from the base available to them as permitted in the Code of the State of Delaware.

The Wilmington Institute Free Library and the New Castle County Free Public Library were excluded from Table 13 because the legal statutes referred to above do not pertain to these institutions.

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[18] Department of Public Instruction, Research Division, *Assessments and Tax Rates, Delaware School Districts*, 1967-68 (Dover: The Department, 1969), p. 21.

It is pertinent however, to suggest that Wilmington Institute Free Library received an appropriation of $259,539.76 from the City of Wilmington. This funding is at a rate of almost .09¢ per $100 assessed valuation of the City which totaled $291,444,805.00.

The appropriation to the New Castle County Free Public Library by New Castle County was $269,949.94 or approximately .104¢ per $100 assessed valuation of the County area excepting the areas of Wilmington, New Castle and Odessa.

TABLE 14

LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT FUNDING OF DELAWARE'S LIBRARIES, 1967-68

Total Funding.........	$551,981.00
Population............	524,421

Conclusion:

The per capita funding 1967-68 by the Federal Government was $1.05.

TABLE 15

STATE OF DELAWARE FUNDING OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY COMMISSION, 1967-68

State Library.........	$ 85,160.
Public Libraries......	33,740.
Total...........	$118,900.

Conclusion:

The per capita funding 1967-68 by the State of Delaware was 22 cents of which 16 cents was in support of the Library Commission. A total of 6 cents supported the grant-in-aid program for district public libraries.

Conclusions

The district public library funding mix employed in Delaware in 1967-68 indicates that the State share equals three percent, the federal share seven percent and the local share 90 percent.

The funding level of Delaware district public libraries is inadequate for the purposes of providing library services and resources appropriate to the citizens of a state whose economy and population warrant increased effort resulting in the provision of adequate public library service.

Strong local incentive exists in various communities, eight of which have levied a tax to support the local library effort. It appears however, that local incentive alone is not sufficient to the task. Further, all communities are not equally capable of providing an adequate revenue without meaningful assistance from the State.

The inadequate support of six cents per capita provided by the State of Delaware is hardly a reward for the local effort displayed by the various communities which have endeavored to do for themselves. Adequate support would permit the Library Commission for the State of Delaware to provide a higher level of service to those persons residing in areas which are not now library districts.

A revision of the legal statutes to enable increased local funding, increased State support and the establishment of regional libraries funded by the State of Delaware is clearly a high priority task.

Why Are Delaware Public Libraries Deficient?

Generally, discussions suggesting inadequacies are almost automatically related to the lack of funds available to the endeavor. Lack of funds is an important indicator when per capita expenditures are below minimally accepted norms. Undoubtedly, the level of funding directly influences library resources available, new books added each year, the library building provided and the services whose extension it will or will not sustain, the number and capability of staff available, and a host of various other indicators of Delaware's inadequate public libraries as documented in the preceding sections.

An extraordinary amount of time and energy has been expended in suggesting that the legal statutes of Delaware have been restrictive of local district public library development. To a degree this contention is valid, however, Delaware legal statutes do permit district library commissions to recommend to the district school board "such sum of money as the District Library Commission shall certify to the Board as proper and necessary for the expenses of the library for the year in which such sum is to be levied and raised."[19] It is significant, and to the distinct disadvantage of public library development, that, in 1967-68 eight of eighteen district libraries sought funds from the local source available to the public library. Actually this source is not only available but the Delaware Code indicates that this is the primary source created for the funding of district public libraries. (Note: In 1968-69 two additional libraries have requested and will obtain funds from this source.)

Delaware legal statutes have been restrictive of the growth of libraries in that there have been ceilings provided for classes (1-3) of public libraries. The classes are arbitrary, partially in that they are directly related to the number of pupils attending the public schools in the district and, in part, the funding ceiling or limitation has not been realistic in permitting necessary growth of the libraries. Legislation prepared for presentation to the General Assembly of Delaware (see Appendix C) will propose that the assessed valuation of the district is a more appropriate gauge of the fiscal ability and limitations of a district to adequately support public libraries.

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[19] Delaware Code Annotated, v.8, Title 19, § 7129(a), 1966, p. 271.

It is difficult to suggest that Delaware lacks the fiscal capability to support modern library services for its population. The per capita income of Delaware placed it in third position among the fifty states in 1966. The assessed valuation of Delaware Real Estate increased by more than 3 and 1/2 percent during 1967-68 and a general indicator, unemployment presently is lower in Delaware than that rate experienced in the United States. Various other programs of an educational nature, directed toward increasing each citizens ability to live meaningfully in society continue to receive funding in balance with the needs of the society being served and/or the service needs.

It is important to indicate that although there has not developed apparent resistance to public libraries and their development on the part of governmental officials there has been an expression which indicates that an orientation to the challenging needs and potential of libraries would be of distinct value if directed toward the leaders Delawareans have chosen. The task of capturing the attention of general government officials in order to gain assistance is indeed difficult. However, it is imperative to suggest that the needs of each of the institutions of a society must be attended to constantly. Societal problems of great magnitude on the contemporary scene appear to have arrested the attention of state and local officials, and rightfully so. However, the program providing for continued self-development of individuals provided by libraries will have far reaching values if supported adequately and made to function effectively. It is logical and fitting that support for library development be solicited from governmental officials as well as laymen. Concerted efforts to inform public officials adequately and persuasively of the needs of libraries is of paramount importance.

Delaware's lack of public library staff is at once a deficiency and in itself a causal factor of the deficiencies existant in the State. The serious lack of professional staff and the limitations of formal training and preparation on the part of staff in general, threaten the potential achievement of successful public library development. To date the scholarship opportunities provided by the Delaware Library Association and the Library Commission for the State of Delaware have not influenced in any positive manner the dearth of professionally qualified personnel available in Delaware.

Attitudinal responses to the demanding tasks of librarianship differ with each person engaged in the library effort. However, when growth has been slow and the odds against success tend to be high the purpose and emphasis of modern library service may be lost sight of. In his description of the situation existant in Pennsylvania in 1957-58 Lowell Martin suggested:

> Separate from specific professional competence, there is wide-spread lack of clarity among both the trained and untrained personnel concerning the purpose and emphasis of modern library service. So many librarians have slipped back into the viewpoint that their sole function is to provide the lighter recreational reading and educational material which many people request. Good recreational reading and educational material can not readily be drawn. But the fact remains that reading of this type is widely and conveniently available at relatively low cost. The distinctive reasons for the existence of the library and for its public

> support is its service as an informational and educational agency. So often the librarian starts by observing that he has only a limited subject material. He is able to get a reader response at less cost by buying best sellers. In time he virtually closes off the demand for more substantial reading, and may actually convince himself that it no longer exists.[20]

Delaware library staff members must labor long and hard to create the informational and educational agency Delawareans require and to create an attitude which will expedite and facilitate state-wide library development.

To assign some responsibility to the Library Commission and its staff for the deficiency which persists is a difficult and delicate task. However, staff limitations, qualitative and quantitative, have, along with severe budget limitations, created extended periods during which the effective pursuit of state-wide library development could not be initiated and sustained. The limitation of the functions accorded the Library Commission for the State of Delaware following 1959 has effectively reduced its opportunity to serve as a comprehensive state library. Further, the Library Commission has been unable to obtain sufficient funds to provide an organization capable of providing meaningful guidance and effective leadership to the state-wide problems.

Closely related to the deficiencies noted previously is the absence of a structure tailored to Delaware characteristics of government, geographical size, fiscal capability, population characteristics and a recognition of anticipated future developments for the First State.

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[20] Martin, Lowell, Library Service in Pennsylvania, v.I. (Harrisburg: Pennsylvania State Library, 1958), p. 79-80.

A proposal advanced by Dr. John M. Dawson, Director of the University of Delaware libraries in 1963 was the first officially recorded expression of the need for a state-wide library structure to encompass community libraries linked in a network with an intermediate level of service and the Library Commission functioning as a system.[21] The Humphry Survey in 1966 also provided direction toward the development of a "state-wide plan for coordinated community library service."[22] Unfortunately, to the detriment of Delawareans, the above programs have not been initiated.

The recent consolidation of public school districts may have a salutory effect upon the plight of local district public libraries in that the uniting of districts can have a centralizing influence upon the public libraries.

The obvious differences in public libraries with regard to population served, assessed valuation of the district, and resources and services presently available indicate that all libraries do not, and will not, have equal opportunity to provide fully for the needs of the constituency being served.

The need for a library structure capable of inducing and accomodating the coordination of resources and facilities is of great magnitude. Cooperative efforts, both formal and informal, are required to gain maximum value of limited staff and resources and simultaneously neutralize the local district public libraries inadequacies by supplementing its staff and resources.

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[21] Dawson, John M, A State System of Public Libraries for Delaware, (Mimeo), 1962. p. 4.

[22] Humphry, John and James, Library Service in Delaware, (New York: The Library Commission for the State of Delaware, 1966), p/ 77.

The proposed state-wide structure will be presented in a succeeding section, however, it is pertinent and necessary to consider the severe limitations of financial support which must be overcome if a structure capable of serving all Delawareans is to be created. The district public library expenditure per capita from local and state funds for Delaware included .06¢ from State sources and $1.49 from local or a total of $1.55 in 1967-68. It is significant to note that during the same period Maryland expended $4.17 per capita, New Jersey, $3.45, and New York State, $4.46. The funds available from Federal sources during 1967-68 was $1.05 per capita for Delaware.

If public libraries are to develop at a rate commensurate with the population growth (17.5% between 1960-67) and the growth in the assessed valuation of real estate (3.55% between 1968 and 1969) increased funding from local and state sources is urgently required.

Financially the State of Delaware must make available funds in recognition of the genuine local effort expended in behalf of public libraries and in order to relate the local library efforts to a system capable of serving state-wide.

The deficiencies which currently plague the public library effort in Delaware can be attributed to a combination of factors the most prominent of which have been suggested. With full knowledge of the weaknesses the immediate task is to fashion a service commensurate with the library needs of Delawareans and the financial capability of the Districts and of the State in combination.

CHAPTER IV

THE LIBRARY COMMISSION FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE*

Powers and Duties

The Library Commission does not seriously qualify for consideration as the State Library of Delaware in spite of the enthusiasm and hope expressed by many librarians, commissioners and citizens. The basic functions of the Commission and its library staff as expressed in the Delaware Code Annotated are limited to providing library services of an extension nature to public libraries throughout the State and general library services from its collection in Dover. The Library Commission is enabled to function as the State of Delaware agency which receives funds allocated to Delaware under the Library Services and Construction Act, Title I, II, III, IVA and IVB. As a result services and resources are provided for public libraries, state-supported institutional libraries, the blind and physically handicapped and the operations of the Commission.

The most effective state libraries as indicated by Monypenny and Garrison are those which serve as multi-purpose agencies encompassing "all library services of the state government, so integrated as to function with economy and efficiency."[23] The components of such a comprehensive state library are: general library services; extension; archives; government publication; law; legislative reference; state histroy, and, special library services.

No brief will be made at this time for an addition to the basic functions currently undertaken by the Commission despite the very serious need to offer a high quality library service program to the executive judicial and legislative branches of government and the various state agencies serving the Delaware constitutency.

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[23] Monypenny, Phillip and Guy Garrison, The Library Functions of the States (American Library Association, 1966), p. 43.

*see Humphry, John and James A. III. Library Service in Delaware for a historical consideration of the Commission.

Rather, genuine concern is herein expressed for an opportunity to do well, qualitatively as well as quantitatively, those functions presently assigned the Commission in the Delaware Code Annotated, Title 14, Chapter 71, Subchapter 1, Section 7106.

§ 7106. Powers and Duties

> (a) The Commission shall have general supervision over all public libraries in this State established or maintained under the provisions of this chapter; may require all District Library Commissions created as provided in this chapter such reports as may be deemed proper; shall certify to the State Treasurer that any library is entitled to State aid as provided in this chapter; and shall have all further and other powers necessary and proper for the general supervision of the libraries. The Commission may provide library services to such extent as it deems advisable and funds shall permit; provide for the circulation and distribution of books and other reading matter; and so such other acts tending to encourage reading and the use of library materials as it deems expedient. The Commission shall have the power to enter into contracts for any library service with any other library or with any governmental unit.
>
> (b) The Commission shall draw up and administer a plan for the extension and development of public library services in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Library Services Act (70 Stat.293) or any other federal act pertaining to aid to public libraries. Any funds available to the State under the terms of federal acts shall be paid to the State Treasurer for the use of the Commission in accordance with the terms of the acts. As amended 49 Del.Laws, Ch.220, § 16, eff. June 30, 1953; 51 Del.Laws, Ch.135, § 1, eff. June 10, 1957; 54 Del.Laws, Ch.292, § 1, eff. Dec. 23, 1963.

The programs of the Library Services and Construction Act are enabled to function as a result of paragraph (b) above.

As a result of the generality of the powers and duties assigned the Commission and the proportionately higher funding level accorded the Commission through the Library Services and Construction Act the emphasis of the Commission has been directed toward planning, organizing, staffing and implementing Library Services and Construction Act programs.

There is one State program which stands alone indicative of the concept that the State of Delaware has a responsibility regarding the continuance and development of public libraries for the common good of Delawareans. A program of grants-in-aid to district public libraries is authorized under section 7146 of the Delaware Code Annotated which follows:

> § 7146. State funds for Library Purposes
>
> (a) Whenever the Library Commission for the State of Delaware certifies to the State Treasurer that any School District in this State has established a free public library therein, and has raised by taxation, subscription, gift or otherwise, a sum not less than the minimum sum prescribed by section 7129 of this title for the class to which such district belongs, for the support and maintenance of the library for the year then next ensuing such establishment, the State Treasurer shall pay to the District Library Commission of any such School District a sum equal to one-half of the sum certified by the Library Commission for the State of Delaware. Each year thereafter, the State Treasurer shall pay to the District Library Commission a sum equal to one-half of the sum certified to the State Treasurer by the Library Commission for the State of Delaware as having been raised by taxation, subcription, gift or otherwise during the year, in which the State Treasurer is to make such payment for the maintenance and increase of

> the library for such year. The State Treasurer shall not in any one year pay to any District Library Commission any sum in excess of $3,000 if the district belongs to the first class, nor in excess of $1,500 for a district of the second class, not in excess of $1,000 for a district of the third class. All such sums, paid to any District Library Commission by the State Treasurer shall be expended by such District Library Commission for books. A list of such books must be submitted before purchase of the Library Commission for the State of Delaware for approval. If any District Library Commission neglects or refuses to expend all monies received by such District Library Commission from the State Treasurer for books approved by the Library Commission for the State of Delaware, then and in such event the Library Commission for the State of Delaware may refuse to issue a certificate to the State Treasurer for any further or other payment to the District Library Commission neglecting or refusing as aforesaid.
>
> (b) The payments shall be made quarterly in four equal installments. Each payment shall be made on certification of the Library Commission for the State of Delaware. As amended 54 Del. Laws, Ch. 202, § 2, eff. December 23, 1963.

A total of $33,740.00 was allocated by action of the General Assembly in 1967-68 to support this program. The grants per public library ranged from a high of $3,000 to a low of $500. The per capita expenditure was 6.4 cents per resident of Delaware. It must be indicated that the Wilmington Institute Free Library and the New Castle County Free Library are not recipients of grants-in-aid from the State of Delaware.

As suggested above, the Library Services and Construction Act programs have influenced greatly the efforts of the Library Commission for the State of Delaware. The federal programs are of course, directed to specific objectives (shared by the State) and funded more adequately than the Commission is from the State of Delaware funds.

The following represents the programs, objectives and activities which comprise the Commission functions as a State library agency.

DELAWARE PROGRAMS

OF THE LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT

Library Services & Construction Act Program
OBJECTIVES

TITLE I - SERVICES TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Federal Funding $172,884 (1967-68)

Objective - To promote the continued expansion of public library services

by - improving book collections and staff capabilities of public libraries by contracts to purchase books and library materials, by in-service training activities, by increasing access to the major public library resources of the state;providing grants, advisory service, book loans and various co-operative services coordinated by the Library Commission.

continued effort to increase the level of financial support for community libraries; and, providing financial support from federal funds to support the programs and services of the Library Commission, specifically in the areas of salaries, contractual services, capital outlay and supplies and materials.

Projects

1. Library Commission Services
   a. Direct loan and reference services to public, operation of bookmobiles, rotating library collections
   b. Extension services for improvement of library services in Delaware

2. Federal Grants to Public Libraries
   A total of $51,240 distributed to local libraries and Wilmington Institute Free Library and New Castle County Free Library.

3. Workshops and Field Visits
   (Funding $8,324)
   To provide field visits and training for librarians and trustees

4. Statewide Planning
   (Funding $1,000)
   Studies carried on ie: Humphry Report

5. Delaware Library Resource Service
   (Funding $17,000)
   To provide Interlibrary Loan and reference service utilizing the resources of Wilmington Institute Free Library

6. Work Study Grants
   (Funding $7,000)
   a. Scholarships
   b. Traineeships
   c. Cadetships

7. Central Processing
(Funding $7,000)
To provide centralized processing for public libraries

TITLE II - PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION
(Funding $167,500)

Objective - To assist Delaware's Public Libraries in the development of library building projects.

by - obtaining the available funds from the Federal Government; and, serving library officials in an advisory capacity.

Project - To provide funds for local matching for the construction and/or acquisition of existing facilities. (Allocation of $165,000 toward Wilmington Institute remodeling.)

TITLE III - INTERLIBRARY COOPERATION
(Funding $40,334)

Objective - To exercise leadership in the development of statewide interlibrary cooperation for the purpose of providing ready access to all types of library materials and services for all Delaware citizens.

by - initiating and developing a rapid communication system linking the five partiicpating libraries in a network that will effectively pool available resources and reduce unnecessary duplication of materials. (Cooperating libraries: Delaware State College, Delaware Technical & Community College, University of Delaware, Library Commission for the State of Delaware and the Wilmington Institute Free Library.)

2

Study the feasibility of centralized cataloging and processing center and establishing such a center if warranted. (Center established at 315 W. Loockerman Street, September 1, 1968 to carry on a pilot program until January, 1970.)

Project 1. Feasibility Study to investigate cooperative centralized processing.

2. Delaware Rapid Interlibrary Loan System to make available resources of five libraries to all local public libraries.

3. Survey of public library resources and facilities.

TITLE IVA - INSTITUTIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE FOR STATE OF DELAWARE SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS

(Funding $38,000)

Objective - To improve the woeful inadequacy of state-supported institutional library services and resources for patient, inmate and professional staff through the development of appropriate library programs to support rehabilitation and educational programs of those institutions.

by - providing for the continuation and expansion of the service contract arranged with the Philadelphia Library for the Blind which provides materials from its collections; establishing and operating reading and talking books, braille, and tape recorder and service areas in strategic locations for the handicapped throughout the state in order to increase the availability and accessibility of these materials by the handicapped;

establishing and providing for necessary positions on the State Library Commission staff for the coordination and provision of library services to the blind and physically handicapped.

Participants: - No agency or organization is ineligible for participation. A total of seventy-one (71) readers were registered and being served on January 1, 1968; the present registration and service total is in excess of eight hundred handicapped Delawareans.

Project 1. Strengthening State Library Services

2. Grants to public libraries and institutions

3. Promotional activites

4. Work Study Grants

TITLE IVB - LIBRARY SERVICES FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED (Funding $23,750)

Objective - To provide a statewide program of adequate library service for all physically handicapped persons who are unable to use conventional printed library materials.

by - providing for the continuation and expansion of the service contract arranged with the Philadelphia Library for the Blind which provides materials from its collections;

establishing and operating reading and talking books, braille, and tape recorder and service areas in strategic locations for the handicapped throughout the state in order to increase the availability and accessiblity of these materials by the handicapped;

establishing and providing for necessary positions on the State Library Commission staff for the coordination and provision of library services to the blind and physically handicapped.

Participants - No agency or organization is ineligible for participation. A total of seventy-one (71) readers were registered and being served on January 1, 1968, the present registration and service total is in excess of eight hundred handicapped Delawareans.

Project 1. Strengthening State Library Services

Project 2. Grants to public libraries and institutions

Project 3. Promotional activities

Project 4. Work Study Grants

FUNDING OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION

The following tabulation indicates the funding support available from the State of Delaware for the Library Commission programs:

TABLE 16

STATE OF DELAWARE FUNDING OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND THE LIBRARY COMMISSION 1967-68

Activity	Funding 1967-68
General Operations	$ 85,160.00
Library Services to the Blind	15,000.00
Grants-in-Aid for Public Libraries	33,740.00
Total	$133,900.00

The per capita funding available in 1967-68 for the above program amounted to approximately twenty-five cents, of which six and one half cents per capita was distributed to district libraries through the grants-in-aid program. The general operating budget of the Library Commission approximated sixteen cents per capita.

TABLE 17

LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT FUNDING OF DELAWARE'S LIBRAIRES, 1967-68

Activity	Funding 1967-68
Support of Public Library Services	$ 172,884.00
Public Library Construction	167.755.00
Interlibrary Cooperation	40,334.00
Institutional Services	38,000.00
Services to the Handicapped	$ 23,750.00
Total	$ 442,723.00

The per capita funding available to Delaware from the Federal government was eighty-four cents.

From the above tabulations it is obvious that the operations and programs of the Library Commission for the State of Delaware are supported at a per capita expenditure of $1.09 from State and Federal funding sources.

Funding Conclusions

The availability of funding through the Library Services and Construction Act has provided a major source of growth impetus since 1959 when the Commission first secured a state appropriation of sufficient magnitude to qualify for federal funds. Between the years ending in 1959 and 1960 the Library Commission budget rose from $35,896.20 to $53,060.67. Studied examination of the financial and program records since 1960 indicate that full advantage has been taken of the funds available from this Special source. However, during the period 1960-1967-1968 the Library Commission operations budget from State of Delaware funds has risen from $53,060.67 to $85,106.00. During the same period the funds available from the federal source has risen from $48,391.00 to $442,723.00. The result has been that the emphasis has been placed upon programs of great value to Delawareans but programs which, in their application by the Commission, have not tended to weld Delaware's district libraries into a cooperative system until recognizable effort was exerted toward that end in 1968-69. Funding alone, lacking the necessary State legislation and development of a statewide system of library services will not prove sufficient. That the programs have produced increased resources and library programs for Delawareans cannot be questioned. The inducements provided by the LSCA programs have comprised the greatest single influence for library development in Delaware since the program inception in Delaware in 1960.

The influence of inadequate funding provides an indelible footprint through the many activities of the Library Commission. Rather than supplement the documentation provided previously regarding the inadequacy of the book collection of the Commission or search for other significant areas in which this delimiting factor has reduced the potential of the Commission for service to the people of Delaware; the single area of staffing has been selected for consideration to indicate the woeful inadequacy which significantly influences all Commission activities.

Staffing

It is an ironic fact of management that the have-not units of organization often require greater capability of staff than do the well endowed. This is particularly important when it is indicated that the merit system for Delaware employees was initiated on July 1, 1968 and has imposed severe restrictions upon the staffing potential of the Commission.

A recently completed study (September, 1968) of the Library Commission regarding comparison of Delaware professional position and salary calssification with that of similar state agencies throughout the United States provides significant information.

Subordinate to the State Librarian are four professional classes identified by the titles Assistant State Librarian, Librarian III, Librarian II and Librarian I.

The Assistant State Librarian position with a beginning salary of $9,000 per year was identified by twenty-four other states providing the desired information. The salary ranged from a high of $15,650 to a low of $7,800. Delaware's beginning salary for this position was higher than that offered by three other states, equaled by one state and exceeded by eighteen states.

The position class of Librarian III with a salary of $8,544-$11,520 in Delaware was compared with that of twenty-three other states reporting a similar classification. The beginning salary assigned a salary lower than that of Delaware while twenty states exceeded the Delaware offering. One half of the agencies reporting offered a beginning salary in excess of $10,000.

The Librarian II Classification having a salary range of $7,008-$9,444 in Delaware was compared with that of the twenty-three participating states. The salary ranged from a low of $7,008 to a high of $14,316. Delaware's salary ranked twenty-fourth or lowest.

When the Librarian I, or beginning professional classification, was compared with that of the same reporting agencies the Delaware beginning salary of $6,048 was the twenty-fourth or lowest. Salaries for this class ranged from a low of $6,048 to a high of $12,640.

As a consequence of a restrictive professional salary schedule the Library Commission has been unable to recruit the caliber of library personnel required to provide the personal and professional leadership vital to library development in Delaware. This, in spite of an active year-long recruiting campaign. Should the restrictive salary classification be removed the Library Commission is capable of making available the increased salary monies from federal sources.

It is appropriate to conclude that the Library Commission for the State of Delaware has problems not unlike those of other state library agencies. However, these problems require resolution if the State Library functions are to be carried on successfully and library services and resources are to "get in step" with the increased needs of the library publics.

The recommendations provided in this report are intended to indicate necessary action to change the state of affairs.

Conclusions

The powers and duties permitted the Library Commission for the State of Delaware in Section 7106 of the Delaware Code Annotated have been considered by many as delimiting. This contention is correct when one considers the functions of a comprehensive state library as identified by Monypenny and Garrison in Library Functions of the States. However, the information developed for this study indicates that the opportunity to do well the functions permitted has not been fully explored or successfully campaigned for. Section 7106 indicates,

> The Commission may provide library services to such extent as it deems advisable and funds shall permit; ...and do such other acts tending to encourage reading and the use of library materials as it deems expedient.

A candid and objective conclusion is that the funds previously sought and therefore available from State of Delaware allocations have been obtained to permit the application for and receipt of Federal monies available under the Library Services and Construction Act. However, the effort to develop meaningful programs to provide state-wide library services has not materialized in the development of adequate programs and services.

Previous to 1959-60 the allocations from Delaware funding were minimal increases and the fifty-eight year experience of the Commission indicates no major budget increase over a preceding year until 1959-60. That year the only recorded major increase was made available to the Commission in order that Delaware could qualify for LSCA funds. (Delaware had received no federal monies in the four previous years of LSCA operation.)

When a comparison of the library programs which are essentially Delaware sponsored and funded is made with those under the State of Delaware Plan funded from LSCA allocations, as permitted by Section 7106, paragraph b of the Code, it appears obvious that the programs of the Commission are those expressly provided for in the Plan and funded from LSCA.

The evaluation of the funding, programs and personnel of the Commission suggests that a plan must be devised to build a state-wide system of libraries by obtaining and efficiently utilizing State of Delaware funding.

To that end a preliminary proposal has been developed and follows in a succeeding section.

CHAPTER V

A STATEWIDE LIBRARY SYSTEM FOR DELAWARE

To lift Delaware Public Library Service from the mire of inadequacy requires a thrust of appreciable magnitude on three levels:

District public library funding must be increased through an increased mix of district, state and federal funds;

A statewide system of library organization linking the district library to the regional resource center must be developed to increase the availability of resources within the State; and,

The role of the Library Commission for the State of Delaware must enable it, through personnel and resources, to coordinate the development of district and regional libraries into a meaningful statewide library system.

Various States, whose development of systems is in relatively advanced stages, have coordinated the resources and facilities of school, academic, and special libraries with public libraries. It is proposed that the second stage move rapidly in that direction immediately following the development of the proposed coordination of public libraries. The present relationship of the public libraries to the University of Delaware, Delaware State College and the Delaware Technical and Community College through the Delaware Rapid Interlibrary Loan (DRILL) System suggests the value of this important phase of the development of a meaningful statewide system.

The presentation following considers the development of a statewide system for Delaware. This section provides: Introduction, objectives and physical components of a statewide system, services to be rendered by the system, a proposed statewide library system concept, funding of the system, and a time-phased action and funding schedule for the system 1969-1974.

Introduction

The development of systems of libraries (other than as a county unit) is a rather recent phenomenon occurring throughout the United States.[24] However, it is appropriate and in concert with the recent achievement of broadly based industrial and governmental operations that the service area and the funding base available to libraries be increased and strengthened. Further, there is reason to assume that like entities joined together in common enterprise may accomplish the task with increased efficiency and effectiveness to the benefit of the library user and citizen who assumes the task of providing and supporting the public institution.

While of late, the American Library Association has developed minimum standards for systems, rather than for individual library units, no specific definition of a system has developed.[25] Significant for Delaware considerations is the suggestion that a population of or approaching 150,000 can most effectively utilize a system.

Important systems developments have occurred in Illinois, New York and the Saint Paul-Minneapolis metropolitan area to mention but a few of the well organized efforts.[26] Plans are underway for the development of systems in many other states. The recent publication of a plan for Hawaii to establish a single, state system of public and school libraries has value for states whose geographical area and total population is not extensive.[27]

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[24] University of the State of New York, State Education Department, Emerging Library Systems. (Albany: the University, February, 1967), n.p.

[25] American Library Association, Public Library Association, The Standards Committee, Minimum Standards for Public Library, System, 1966 (Chicago: A.L.A., 1967)

[26] American Library Association, Public Library Systems in the United States (Chicago: A.L.A., 1969).

[27] State of Hawaii, Department of Education, Planning for Libraries in Hawaii (Honolulu: the Department, 1968).

To a relatively advanced degree cooperative efforts have been developed and initiated to coordinate the interlibrary loan functions and requirements of Delaware district and other libraries. However, the advantages of a comprehensive system tailored to the needs and responses of Delaware with a land area of 1,978 square miles and a population which has not exceeded 600,000 are potentially unlimited.

OBJECTIVES OF PROPOSED STATEWIDE SYSTEM

Organization: to develop an organizational pattern conducive to the establishment of an attitude of cooperative endeavor beneficial for Delaware library users. To plan and organize a system retaining the flexibility and other obvious advantages of district libraries and simultaneously gaining the advantages associated with large size library book collections, purchasing and technical processing, specialized staff and broadly based (district plus state) funding.

Policies: to initiate and maintain liberal and reasonably uniform policies and regulations concerning the organization of services and resources and to provide increased accessibility and availability of educational and informational resources for all Delawareans.

Materials: to identify the location of resources, encourage cooperative purchasing projects to extend subject coverage to a maximum with a minimum of unwarranted duplication, and provide for maximum usage of financial resources.

Personnel: to attract and employ library staff adequate in numbers and professional preparation to provide the high level capabilities modern library service requires.

Buildings: to make available district public library buildings and regional library centers conveniently and effectively located in order to facilitate maximum accessibility for library users: to be of sufficient size to provide for the appropriate library functions and attractive and well-equipped to afford a pleasant and satisfying experience for the library user.

COMPONENTS OF THE SYSTEM STRUCTURE

Various physical configurations are available to the system. Three have been considered:

The System could be composed of the numerous small public libraries presently existent and additional units to be constructed in areas presently without district library service. The provision of convenient access would receive highest priority utilizing this approach. The need for reasonably convenient access must be met, however, this factor must be tempered by the need to provide an adequate informational resource collection with balance and depth.

The system could be composed of a few large libraries providing substantial collections in each. Considering the relatively small land area of Delaware and the increasing mobility of population this approach has real merit even through an obstacle would be created for access by children, those who must or prefer to walk, and by those whose interest would be diminished by the increase in distance from their home, school or employment location.

An attractive alternative exists between the two extremes when a system utilizing presently located district library outlets and regional centers is considered. The provisions of available resource collections of adequate scope and depth and reasonably convenient access are met. This alternative appears to have the greatest merit for Delaware.

The development of single system organized centrally for statewide service will provide the best opportunity for provision of necessary and desirable levels of service and quality of collections throughout the state. The single system would serve the people directly through regional libraries and community libraries and not unimportantly, provide supplementary support for public school and technical and community colleges throughout the State.

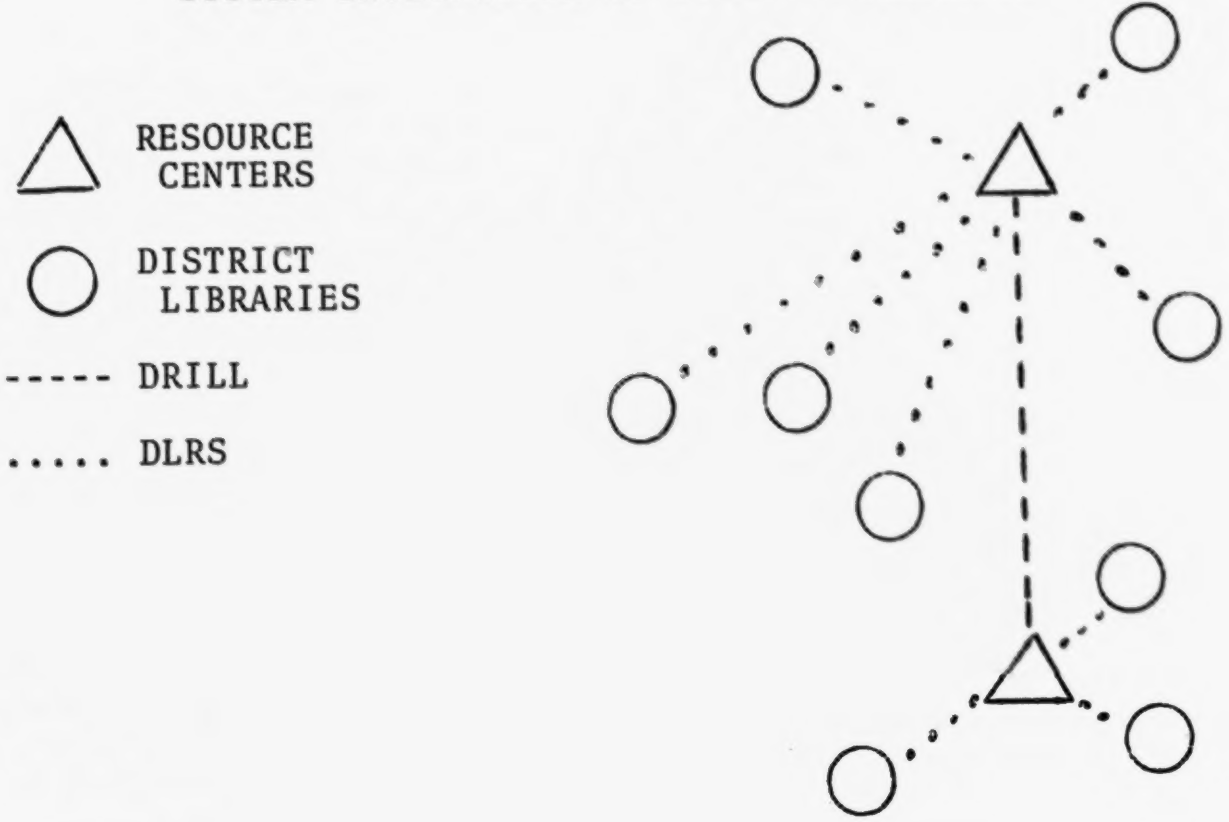
The proposed system recognizes the district library as an essential point of access for most of the State's library users. A strong first level system utilizing the Proposed Standards for Delaware Public Libraries (Appendix B) can assure that the member libraries provide a high level of service and respond to local needs most effectively.

The system would expedite more readily the interchange through loan of materials and services.

The integration of all library functions in a full service organization with inherent flexibility provides a more realistic effective and efficient approach to serving the people of the State.

FIGURE 1

SYSTEM INTEGRATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES



As conceived the components comprising a network of libraries would be the district public libraries and the Regional resource centers. The DRILL Network (in operation since October, 1968) links together through dataphone teletypewriter connections the University of Delaware, Wilmington Institute, Delaware State College, Delaware Technical and Community College and the Library Commission libraries. District libraries place requests via phone with the nearest terminal for referral to the desired larger resource via teletypewriter. The Delaware Library Resource Service in operation since 1966 uses Wilmington Institute as the resource to which all requests are forwarded from district libraries via telephone or mail.

Services of the System

A comprehensive plan for offering various services is required if the caliber of improvement necessary is to be obtained as a result of the restructuring of the organization into an integrated system. Important in the planning are the following and related factors:

The development of desirable and achievable overall objectives for each library unit and the system;

The description of programs and services required and desired and priority appropriate to the order of implementation;

A thorough analysis of funding requirements to support staff, facility and resources necessary to program initiation and implementation;

The development of a physical facilities program to provide facilities capable of sustaining the required programs;

The establishment of evaluative criteria for measuring the relative value of all programs; and,

The creation of a timetable to provide guidance in the continuing planning process which should be reviewed and up-dated.

The overall objectives of the system shall include:

1. The establishment and administration of public library services throughout the state through increasing the funding and service base of the district libraries and the resource centers.
2. The provision of programs and resources to facilitate education and enrichment of the lives of Delawareans and as a consequence foster the continued economic, social, and cultural growth of Delaware.

3. The strengthening of resource collections in both general and specialized areas as well as in reference and research materials to support the needs of individuals and organizations.

4. The adoption and administration of library standards to increase the effectiveness of district public libraries and assure the continued maintenance of effective library service.

Services of the Resource Center

The actual service programs to be offered by a proposed system cannot be presented until an in-depth consideration has been engaged in. However, the Illinois, Kansas, Hawaii, Alaska and New York State experiences suggest the program areas to be considered in the development of the proposed system. Various of these will be indicated as providing some degree of value for Delaware district libraries.

(1) Provision of central reference and resource collections at the Resource Centers for loan to district libraries
(2) Centralized ordering, cataloging, and preparation of materials acquired
(3) Consultant services for reference, adult, youth and children, bibliography, audio-visual and book selection
(4) Consultant and special services from the Library Commission for the State of Delaware including service to the blind and physically handicapped
(5) Bookmobile service to areas not directly served by existing library facilities
(6) Inter and Intra state network for interlibrary loan
(7) In-service training of library staff

A variety of services is available and potentially a full range would be provided over a period of five or more years. However, in light of the rather severe limitations regarding presently available personnel and book resources in Delaware serious consideration would best be rendered if the highest priority was assigned to book and consultative staff programs.

A PROPOSED STATE-WIDE LIBRARY SYSTEM(S) CONCEPT

Note:

The following has been devised as the overall concept which will permit the development of the integral components of a proposed system. At the same time an arrangement has been provided which should facilitate the working relationship to be achieved within the newly developed organization.

The author's intent has not been to provide a fully developed program. Rather, this effort represents an initial attempt to present an idea for the serious consideration of many library-minded individuals from which will come a viable organization.

Proposal

It is proposed that appropriate action be undertaken to create, operate and finance a statewide system of libraries composed of a network of interrelated cooperating libraries designed to provide adequate library facilities and services easily available and accessible to all Delaware citizens.

Purpose

Since adequate library resources and services are essential to the cultural, educational, and economic development of the State and to the health, safety and welfare of its people, and are the responsibility of government at all levels, and since the state has a financial responsibility for promoting public education and the public library is a vital agency serving all levels of the educational process, it is the policy of this State to promote, support, and implement through appropriate and various means the development and maintenance of a network of cooperating libraries to provide adequate public facilities and services to every citizen.

Introduction

Development of a library system depends upon the linkage of two or more libraries through contractual agreements sanctioned by The Library Commission for the State of Delaware.

The contractual relationship implies no sacrifice of local autonomy while improving library service in the area being served by the members.

Contracts will be entered into voluntarily and shall specify the services to be provided and received and the rate of compensation.

The State of Delaware shall be a partner and enter into the establishment, operation, and financing of co-operative library systems.

Eligibility to join and participate

Any public library may join which meets criteria established by The Library Commission for the State of Delaware. A library will be required to have achieved a certain level of service and local (district) support before it is eligible to become a participating member and receive the benefits of membership and the funding of the system by the State of Delaware and member libraries.

Evolvement of the System

The system evolves from bottom to top, not from the state level downward.

At the community (district) library level the governing body shall, upon deciding to join the system through contract, submit a proposal requesting its approval for participation to the governing body of the system.

The governing body of the system, an Advisory Council consisting of seven lay members representing the member libraries of the system shall consider the request for participation and forward the proposal, after study with Council recommendations attached, to the Library Commission for the State of Delaware.

The Library Commission for the State of Delaware shall consider the request and the recommendations from the Advisory Council and recommend inclusion or exclusion of the request for participation.

An Advisory Committee, consisting of five librarians, shall be appointed by the Library Commission for the State of Delaware to review any request for participation which has been denied. The governing body of the Library whose request was denied shall submit in writing a request for consideration by the Advisory Committee. The Committee shall review the request and advise the Library Commission of its findings in writing. The LIbrary Commission shall review the finding and approve or disapprove the request. The District Library Commission shall be informed in writing of the Commission's decision.

SYSTEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

a. An Advisory Council shall be established, consisting of six members representing the member libraries of the system and the Chairman of the Library Commission for the State of Delaware or his designee who shall be a member of the Commission.

b. The governing body of each member library of the system shall elect or appoint a representative for the purpose of electing Council members. The representatives shall meet within 15 days following their election and shall elect the initial council from their group. Thereafter, the representatives in an annual meeting shall elect members of their group to fill council vacancies arising due to expiration of terms of office. Other vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term by the remaining members of the Council. The major public library of those libraries participating in the system shall always have one member on the Council.

c. The term of office of an elected council member is three years, except that the initial members shall draw lots for terms, two to serve a one-year term, two to serve a two-year term, and two to serve a three-year term. No individual may serve more than two consecutive terms.

d. The council shall elect a chairman, vice chairman and secretary each year.

e. The council shall meet at least once a year. Other meetings may be held as often as is required to transact necessary business. A majority of the council membership constitutes a quorum. The council shall report business transacted at each meeting to all member libraries of the system and the Library Commission for the State of Delaware.

f. The council shall serve as a liaison agency between the member libraries and their governing bodies and the Commission to:

1. advise in the formulation of the annual plan for service to be offered by the system;
2. recommend policies appropriate to services needed;
3. evaluate services received;
4. counsel with administrative personnel; and,
5. recommend functions and limitations of contracts between cooperating members.

g. The functions of the Advisory Council in no way diminish the powers of the governing bodies of local (district) libraries.

PLAN OF SERVICE

The State Librarian shall submit an initial plan for the establishment of the State Library System and an annual plan for the development of the system for review by the Advisory Committee and approval by the Commission.

SYSTEM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

a. The Commission shall appoint an Advisory Committee of five librarians qualified by training, experience, and interest to reconsider requests for participation which have been denied by the Commission. The Advisory Committee shall study and make recommendations regarding the policy to be followed in the application of the provisions of this Act.

b. Terms of office of a Committee member is three years, except that the initial members shall draw lots for terms, one to serve a one-year term, two to serve a two-year term, two to serve a three-year term.

c. The Committee shall meet within ten days following receipt of a written request from the governing body of a library whose application to participate in a system has been denied. Other meetings may be called by the Commission during the year. The Committee shall meet at least once a year.

d. Members of the Committee shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

e. Vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as original appointments.

f. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms.

COMPONENTS OF PROPOSED STATE LIBRARY SYSTEM(S)

Major Resource Center(s)

a. The Commission shall designate the major resource center. Designation shall be made on the basis of criteria approved by the Commission and agreed to by the governing body of the library involved.

b. The governing body of the library designated by the Commission may accept the designation by appropriate legal action stating the type of service to be given and the area to be served.

c. The Commission may revoke the designation of a major resource center which ceases to meet the criteria for a major resource center or which fails to comply with obligations stated in the legal action which served as an agreement. The Commission shall provide a fair hearing on request of the governing body of the major resource center.

d. Funds allocated by governing bodies contracting with the major resource center and funds available from the State of Delaware for the purposes of this Act shall be deposited with the governing body operating the major resource center, in accordance with procedures acceptable to the major resource center, The Library Commission for the State of Delaware, and the governing body of the contracting library.

COMMUNITY (DISTRICT) LIBRARY

a. Community libraries accredited by the Commission are eligible for membership in the State Library System.

b. A community library may join a system by appropriate legal action of its governing body and execution of contracts for service.

c. The Commission may terminate the membership of a community library in a system if the community library loses its accreditation by ceasing to meet the minimum standards established by the Commission or fails to comply with obligations stated in the participation agreements.

Funding the System

Local district libraries, dependent mainly upon local funds, have been unable to establish viable library systems. The experience gained in other states indicated that the impetus supplied by State and Federal funds has been the chief factor in securing the establishment and operation of successful systems. As an example, for- the first biennium of operation in Illinois, 4.7 million dollars was appropriated from State funds for system support. During the succeeding two years $9,495,207 was made available in addition to Federal funds available under the Library Services and Construction Act.[28]

The experience in New York State indicates that state support for public libraries was $2,450,000 in 1956. With the development of systems the 1964 appropraition rose to $10,200,000 and the 1967-68 increase brought the total expenditure to $14,300,000.[29]

A total library expenditure of $3.00 per capita for Delaware is necessary at present. However, considering the heavy strain presently placed upon local property tax and the ever present inequities in the tax base of the various library districts it appears unrealistic to suggest that $3.00 per capita can be achieved solely from this limited base. As indicated previously the funding presently (1967-68) available reflects a funding mix of ninety percent local, seven percent Federal and three percent State of Delaware. An appraisal of the funding proportions utilized in various states indicates the following ranges:

Local Funds.............	65-80%
State Funds.............	10-30%
Federal Funds...........	5-10%

To achieve a standard support figure of $3.00 per capita for Delaware's present population (1967 Special Census) of 524,421 a total of $1,573,263.00 would be required.

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[28] Stenstrom, Ralph H. The Emergence and Development of Public Library Systems in Illinois. Springfield, Illinois State Library. 1968), p. 53.

[29] University of the State of New York. Emerging Library Systems. p. XI -5.

If the local share of 70 percent was generated the sum realized would be $1,101,284.10 or approximately equal to the present total funding available from all sources.

On a 25 percent basis for State Aid the total would be $393,315.75 or approximately 75¢ per capita.

The Federal monies available would equal approximately 5 percent or $78,663.15.

Full consideration of the local tax burden suggests that the above proportions are feasible, however, a greater share assumed by the State would prove highly advantageous in that its effect would be one of expediting and facilitating the rapid development of regional libraries and local district libraries joined in an integrated system. Further, the State could effectively influence cooperative endeavors and the adoption of desirable standards for public libraries.

A more appropriate funding schedule would be composed of 60 percent local, 35 percent state and 5 percent federal.

Inasmuch as the 1967-68 per capita funding was $1.71 from all sources it is appropriate to suggest that an immediate goal of $3.00 per capita is desirous and within reason. It may appear obvious that an expenditure in excess of one million dollars annually on the part of the public libraries of Delaware deserves a level of funding more adequate than 22¢ per capita supplied by the State if only to protect the sizeable investment already made and enable all Delawareans to utilize the available resources through a state-sponsored system.

The most recent and the most authoritative study of systems development indicates, "The state continues to rank as the second most important source of support."[30] The study indicates further that in 1966 the state government as a second source of funding in fifty-eight systems reporting, supplies 20.7 percent of the operating income. It is appropriate to indicate that the State of Delaware funding made available for establishment and initial operation of the system should exceed 20 percent.

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[30] Public Library Association, American Library Association. Public Library Systems in the United States (Chicago: A.L.A., 1969), p. 69.

Funding Program for Systems Development

The development of viable systems has been characterized by the impetus, in great part, of funding support from the state. Four types of grants have been utilized to accomplish the organization and maintenance of systems, these are: Establishment, Area, Per Capita and Equalization grants which are directed from the State to the system.

Establishment Grants - Inasmuch as the initial stage or organizing a regional center includes relatively large one-time expenditures for equipment, library resources, library facility and supplies, an establishment grant has proven to be an acceptable procedure in the development of the Illinois, New York and various other statewide systems. A one-time establishment grant is allocated to the system, in part, to compensate for the extension of services to an increased population residing in a large geographical area and to strengthen the book and staff resources necessary to the task.

Establishment grants permit a great deal of flexibility and have been utilized in a variety of ways in the various states. Establishment grants have been helpful in acquiring large purchases of books and materials, an expenditure which has a high priority for beginning systems.

Area Grants - Area grants are recurring grants to the regional center which reduce the cost of improved services over an area larger than that previously served by the library selected to serve as the regional center. An important function to be achieved in Delaware is the establishment of service to areas presently without service or with limited access to service.

Per Capita Grants - The number of persons to be served by the system regional center bears importantly upon the funding requirements of the sytem. In order to provide for the effect of high or low density of population in an area, per capita grants have been utilized in the development of systems.

The changes in geographic area are less significant than are the changes occurring in population. As a result area grants reflect to some degree the changes occurring within the service area. However, based upon special censuses the per capita grants tend to provide an increasing source of revenue for rapidly growing areas and a gradually decreasing or relatively stable source for those areas in which the population is decreasing.

Equalization Grants - Equalization grants have been used to reduce the hardship experienced in those areas which because of an insufficient tax ratable base have been unable to generate a sufficient amount of revenue to provide an adequate budget for the library endeavor. Instances in which these grants have been utilized most effectively are those in which the legal code has established a maximum tax rate, which when collected, will not provide an adequate library budget.

In the initial development of a Delaware system greatest reliance should be placed upon the development of an Establishment, Area, and Per Capita grants schedule.

TIME-PHASED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SYSTEMS PROGRAM

In commenting upon the inadequacies of the small public libraries in Kansas, Goldstein suggests, "This kind of operation reduces to absurdity the idea that such localities are capable of much, if any, self-improvement." He states also,

> "...while systems will not overcome these built-in inequities, they can help in conveying a sense of need for upgrading through the cooperative practices which systems will undertake. ...systems can help substitute for local deficiencies by adding professional knowhow, overseeing and evaluating the amount of local development and by correlating the few available resources to the advantage of all system members."[31]

Goldstein's comments were intended to relate the situation as it exists in Kansas. However, the obvious trend in business and industry and in government indicates that the smaller entities are increasingly unable to serve effectively and efficiently the constitutents dependent upon them. There is very real cause for concern in Delaware, as there is in Kansas and throughout the United States, that the inadequate local public library can develop to serve adequately the needs of its publics. Faced with mounting costs of service operations and constitutent resistance to increased local taxes it is difficult to suggest a library program which will utilize the financial resources in any other than an effective and efficient manner and still provide for satisfactory accessiblity and availability factors without suggesting that increased funding come from the State source.

The development of a system will result in the effective and efficient utilization of financial resources and provide the required increased accessiblity to the available library resources in the State.

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[31] Goldstein, Harold, A Study of Public Library Services in Kansas (Topeka, Kansas State Library, 1968), p. 57.

The material provided herein is preliminary to developing a thoroughly planned program providing for the establishment of the system and its implementation. However, it would appear that the following financial considerations may serve as a guide to the comprehensiveness of the program and indicate the relatively low magnitude of the cost of a functional program for all Delawareans.

TIME-PHASED ACTION AND FUNDING SCHEDULE FOR DELAWARE STATE LIBRARY SYSTEM 1969-1974

PHASE I - 1969-70

ACTION PROPOSED

Library Commission Action (Completed)

Adoption of proposed revisions to the Delaware Code Annotated for the consideration of the General Assembly;

Adoption of a request for a supplementary appropriation to retain federal funds for construction of a proposed State Library-Resource Center facility;

Adoption of a proposed Library Commission budget for fiscal year 1970

Legislative Action

Adoption of the proposed revisions to the Delaware Code Annotated;

Adoption of the Library Commission budget as proposed by the Governor and the Joint Finance Committee of the Delaware General Assembly; and,

Propose supplementary legislation to enable the Library Commission to retain $131,057 of federal funds available for the construction of a State Library facility to serve additionally as the first Resource Center.

Cost of Action

Library Commission Budget	$104,196.
State Grants-in-Aid to Library Districts	33,740.
Providing Matching Construction Funds	268,000.
Total	$405,936.

PHASE II - 1970-71

Library Commission Action

Develop preliminary plans for building State Library-Central Resource Center;

Study of systems development for proposal to General Assembly;

Develop library services program to serve needs of State of Delaware officials and agencies.

Legislation Action

Allocation of budget for Library Commission;

Allocation of State grants to public library district.

Cost of Action

Library Commission Budget	$125,000.
State Grants to library districts	114,000.
Total	$239,000.

1971

Library Commission Action

Finalize statewide library system program for Resource Center and Systems Operation;

Preparation and proposal of Library Commission budget;

Adopt library standards for district public libraries compliance;

Finalize program and planning for proposed State-Resource Center Library facility.

Legislative Action

Allocation of Library Commission funding;

Allocation of Grants to district libraries;

Allocation of $132,000 as per Capital Improvements Plan, State Planning Office.

Cost of Action

Library Commission Funding	$140,000
Grants to District Public Libraries	125,000
Construction Funds, Capital Improvements Program	132,000.
Total	$397,000.

PHASE III - 1972-73

Library Commission Action

Preparation and proposal of Library Commission budget for General Assembly;

Designation of State Library and New Castle County Free Library as Resource Centers;

Establishment of working agreements between district public libraries and Regional Centers;

Request establishment grant for New Castle County Regional Center and Kent-Sussex Regional Center.

Legislative Action

Approval of Systems Program of establishment grants;

Allocation of Library Commission budget;

Allocation of Capital Improvement Funding;

Allocation of Grants to Public Library Districts;

Allocation of Establishment Grants.

Cost of Action

Library Commission Budget	$150,000.
Establishment Grants - 2 @ $100,000	200,000.
Grants to District Libraries	140,000.
Capital Improvements Program Funding	400,000.
Total	$890,000.

1973

Library Commission Action

Preparation and proposal of Library Commission budget for General Assembly;

Develop and propose to General Assembly a schedule of allocation of Per Capita grants to Resource Centers;

Propose revision of *Delaware Code Annotated* to revise Grants-in-Aid program to District Public Libraries;

Develop plan to involve business and industry and public school libraries in information storage and retrieval program.

Legislative Action

Approval of *Delaware Code Annotated* revisions revising Grants-in-Aid program to District Libraries;

Allocation of Library Commission Budget;

Allocation of Per Capita grants to Resource Centers.

Cost of Action

Library Commission Funding	$165,000.
Per Capita grants to Centers(50¢/capita per 550,000 population)	275,000.
Total	$440,000.

PHASE IV - 1974

Library Commission Action

Evaluation of functioning of the Library System and Resource Centers and services to State Agencies;

Preparation and proposal of Library Commission Budget.

Legislative Action

Allocation of Library Commission Budget;

Allocation of Resource Center funding.

Cost of Action

Library Commission funding	$195,000.
Per Capita Grants to Regional Centers	275,000.
Total	$470,000.

CHAPTER VI

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

The following recommendations are offered to overcome the inadequacies revealed by the year long study of Delaware public libraries.

Recommendation 1.

The revision of the Delaware Code Annotated (1966) Education, Part IV, Libraries, Chapter 71, Free Public Libraries be accomplished to facilitate the operation of district libraries as a consequence of the enactment of the Educational Advancement Act. Further, that revisions to the Code be enacted to enable the growth and development of public libraries to serve more adequately the library needs of Delawareans.

As a consequence of the enactment of the Educational Advancement Act Delaware School Districts have been consolidated and will, after July 1, 1969, number twenty-one. Various provisions of the Delaware Code require revision in order to permit the continued operation and administration and the growth and development of Delaware district public libraries.

Appropriate revisions have been proposed which will reduce the problems and permit, if not, enhance the continued development of Delaware libraries.

The proposed revisions briefly outlined follow:

PROPOSED CHANGES IN DELAWARE CODE ANNOTATED (1966)
EDUCATION, PART IV LIBRARIES, CHAPTER 71,
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Of the proposal, Section 7101-7106, pertains to the revisions proposed for the Library Commission for the State of Delaware

7121. The definitions of School District and Board have been changed to agree with the Educational Advancement Act.

7124. Changed to eliminate classification of school districts as per population or any other distinguishing characteristic.

7129. Previously provided for taxation if library established by election procedure. Changed to include taxation for library established by gift, donation, etc. Additionally provides minimum funding level of three cents per one hundred dollars of the assessed valuation of the real estate of the district. Removes class distinctions of the library and minimums and maximums which were too low at the minimum and too low and restrictive at the maximum.

7135. (a) Changed to indicate that gift, donation, etc. for establishment of a library shall equal or exceed three cents per one hundred dollars assessed valuation of the District. Addition of the words Library (Commission) for the State of Delaware to indicate library establishment must have the sanction of the Commission.

(b) Written to allow all presently established libraries to receive support and maintenance through taxation.

7136. (a) has not been changed.

(b) Previous Section (b) has not been changed.

(c) Has been proposed to accomodate the appointments necessary as a consequence of school consolidation.

7145. (a) Altered to indicate that total assessed valuation of the consolidated districts shall be used to determine the funding of the libraries so affected. Again substituting assessed valuation rather than school population as the determining factor for taxing purposes.

(b) An additional section intended to enable the consolidation of library districts upon the consolidation of school districts.

7146. Rewritten to amplify the minimum funding rate of three cents per one hundred dollars assessed valuation and to indicate a schedule of matching grants-in-aid from the State of Delaware. Grants-in-Aid program was provided in Code previously.

Three cents local would be matched by two cents State
Five cents local would be matched by three cents State
Eight cents local would be matched by four cents State
Ten cents would be matched by five cents State
Twelve cents local would be matched by five and one-half cents State

Libraries not having funding equal to or exceeding three cents per one hundred dollars assessed value will for two years only, receive a State grant equal to one half of the local funding available.

7168. The limits of $300,000 for bonding purposes involved in building construction has been changed upward to be $1,000,000.

Unnumbered New Section

Disestablishment of a district public library.

Recommendation 2.

The State of Delaware Grants-in-Aid Program established as per the Delaware Code should be revised to match more meaningfully the local funding effort and to induce increased development of the local district library through the provision of strong incentives for increasing local support of district public library service. (See Proposed Delaware Library Law, Section 7146, Appendix C).

The proposed revision § 7146 establishes a minimum local district funding rate of three cents per one hundred dollars assessed valuation of the district in order to qualify for a State grant. The schedule ranges from a minimum of three cents local matched by two cents State to a high of twelve cents local matched by five and one-half cents State.

Libraries being unable to satisfy the three cent minimum would be granted State funds equal to fifty percent of the local funds available for two consecutive years following the proposed enactment of this measure.

To enact this program based upon 1968-69 local assessed valuations, would result in an increase from the present $33,740 State grant program to approximately $125,000.

The increased funding would increase the capability of the local district library to reduce its inadequacies and relate to the proposed state-wide library system.

Recommendation 3.

Commissioners of district libraries should act to obtain local funding as permitted under the provisions of the Delaware Code in order to secure and maintain an adequate level of local support.

Commissioners of all district public libraries are enabled to request and obtain district funding in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the Code. However, for the year 1968-69 eight libraries only have achieved this resource vital to the continued growth of the library within the district. The Delaware district public library may well be the sole remaining representative of truly local initiative and effort supplemented by State and Federal resources.

Commissioners must acquaint school board officials with the library needs of the community and permit the school district trustees and residents an opportunity to support their public library.

Recommendation 4.

Commissions having secured district funding as enabled by Delaware Code provisions should seek increased resources in order to develop more adequately the local library program of resources, personnel, and facilities.

The significant role of the district commissioners in perceiving and stating the objectives of the library and obtaining funds adequate to the task is recognized. The development of Delaware public libraries requires the continued dedication and efforts of these public spirited officials. It is recommended that Commissioners seek funding from all available sources to provide three dollars per capita for those residing in the Library districts.

Recommendation 5.

Commissioners of district libraries working with the Librarian and The Library Commission for the State of Delaware should plan and develop a library program providing adequate resources, personnel and facilities commensurate with the library needs of the citizenry they serve and related to the available resources located in Delaware.

The public library programs, resources, facilities and personnel require coordinated planning in order to minimize the present inadequacies. The present and future tasks of the Commissioners, individually and collectively, will be marked by increasing complexity and the need for sensitive awareness to the myriad needs of the library public.

Commissions along with library staff should investigate library needs through questionnaires and other appropriate devices to ascertain the interests and needs of the library's public. Additional evaluative devices should be utilized to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of the library resources, facilities and personnel and result in a planned program devised to overcome the inadequacies indicated by this endeavor.

Recommendation 6.

The Library Commission for the State of Delaware, The Delaware Library Trustees, The Delaware Library Association and interested citizens, should seek additional legislative enactments in order to provide the permissive legal provisions required to expedite and facilitate the development of necessary district, statewide, and Commission library programs. (See Proposed Delaware Public Library Law, Appendix C).

The *Delaware Code Annotated* is restricting the growth of local district libraries in various ways, the most important of which is the arbitrary relationship establishing the pupil population as an indicator of the class of the district. The class in turn restricts the maximum local funding limit.

The factor of pupil population should be replaced by assessed valuation of the district and the classes removed in order to permit the growth necessary for the present and future development of the district libraries.

It is important that increased State of Delaware funding be made available to implement the federally sponsored programs. The total State of Delaware funding available to district public libraries in 1967-68 was $33,740.00 or $.064 per capita.

The funding of the Library Commission for the State of Delaware from State of Delaware funds was $85,160.00 or .16¢ per capita.

The total funding provided by the Federal Government for Library Commission Programs and district library activities was $551,981.00 in 1967-68 or $1.05 per capita.

Recommendation 7.

The Library Commission for the State of Delaware, working with its Executive Secretary, should develop a program of state-wide library service coordinating community libraries and area resource centers in a state-wide program of library development to serve the library needs of all Delawareans. (See Proposed Library System Concept, page 69.

The district library as a functional service unit has served Delaware library needs relatively well and for the foreseeable future there is real but limited value in this organizational form. The ability of citizens to identify with the local district public library has very real meaning in an age marked by the rapid growth of organizations and the impersonal nature of the larger unit.

There is however, value in establishing and maintaining a second level of service units to supplement the local public library resources and provide a coordinated program beneficial for all library patrons.

In recognition of the growing needs of library users, the large percentage of Delawareans without district public library service, and the value of the district library service unit, it is recommended that an essential step toward developing adequate public library service is the development and operation of a state-wide system of cooperating libraries.

Recommendation 8.

It is recommended that additional cooperative ventures of the caliber of Delaware Rapid Interlibrary Loan and Reference (DRILL) and Delaware Library Resource Services (DLRS) be undertaken involving the proposed regional centers, the Library Commission, Special Libraries and all other library units in order to make all library resources available to Delawareans.

To serve library patrons adequately librarians have recognized the relationship of their library to all other libraries. To increase the resources available for their patrons librarians borrow from other libraries to serve patron needs. A once rather informal relationship has become formalized and increasingly effective. The newer technology has provided the communications media to speed the messages and the delivery of materials between libraries. All public libraries may contact Wilmington Institute Free Library via telephone to register a patron request for material under the DLRS program. The DRILL Network of dataphone teletype units links the University of Delaware, The Library Commission, Wilmington Institute Free Library, Delaware State College, and the Community College to all other public libraries. Additional cooperative endeavors should be undertaken to increase the library users accessibility to and availability of library resources in Delaware.

Recommendation 9.

The Library Commission for the State of Delaware, the Delaware Library Trustees and the Delaware Library Association should develop for adoption standards for District Library Service. (See Proposed Standards for District Library Service, Appendix B).

It is appropriate at this time to suggest standards regarding all areas of library activity in order to provide guidance to the development which will be meaningful and provide a measure of incentive to each district library. The standards must be appropriate for Delaware public libraries and must provide an opportunity for achievement by all local libraries.

Recommendation 10.

The Library Commission and The Delaware Library Association should undertake immediately the recruitment of high caliber professional library personnel to serve in Delaware.

Lacking a graduate library school in Delaware, accredited by the American Library Association, Delaware public and other libraries must conduct recruitment programs to attract library school graduates to service in Delaware.

At present the scholarship efforts carried on by the Library Commission and the Delaware Library Association are not proving adequate to satisfy the number of vacancies existant in public libraries.

The development of a cooperative effort, a clearing house for information to provide initial contact of those interested, should be jointly planned and managed by the Commission and the Association.

Recommendation 11.

The Library Commission for the State of Delaware should establish a program of library service for members of the legislative, executive and judicial branches and the agencies of the State government. (The unit should be established at the earliest possible time preliminary to the development of the proposed Management Information System.)

The complexities of government and the needs of the constituency it seeks to serve require increasingly a wealth of information to serve elected officials and the professional staff of Delaware's agencies. The Humphry Report indicated at some length the value of this service. The need will continue to exist and expand until such time as the service is initiated.

Appendix A

ANNUAL REPORT PUBLIC LIBRARIES FISCAL YEAR 1968

ANNUAL REPORT PUBLIC LIBRARIES FISCAL YEAR 1968*

LIBRARIES	STATE	LOCAL*	FEDERAL	TOTAL	BOOKS & BINDING	OPERATING EXPENSES	LIBRARY EQUIPMENT	TOTALS
Bridgeville	1,525.	3,303.77	1,240.	6,068.77	4,309.31	2,721.80		7,031.11
Claymont	3,000.	6,685.11	1,680.	11,365.11	3,663.23	6,189.31		9,952.54
Corbit	1,000.	3,761.38	1,110.	5,871.38	828.30	2,373.38	98.96	3,300.64
Delmar	892.	1,533.50	1,310.	3,735.50	1,468.15	1,848.33		3,316.48
Dover	3,000.	45,250.00	2,880.	51,130.00	15,334.04	49,409.97	958.38	65,702.39
Frankford	1,000.	1,814.15	1,200.	4,014.15	1,032.65	1,817.20		2,849.85
Georgetown	500.	1,091.75	1,310	2,901.75	1,627.64	1,089.82		2,717.46
Laurel	3,000.	29,844.90	1,850.	34,694.90	5,117.99	28,731.51	651.33	34,500.83
Lewes	1,500.	3,566.80	1,380.	6,446.80	2,628.57	3,425.84	405.78	6,500.83
Middletown	2,265.	8,613.70	1,440.	12,318.70	2,683.84	3,735.25	1,034.20	7,453.29
Milford	3,000.	10,000.00	1,710.	14,710.00	4,550.83	11,236.95	929.84	16,717.62
Milton	1,125.	2,360.50	1,220.	4,705.50	2,289.29	2,271.94		4,561.23
Newark	3,000.	47,525.92	3,020.	53,545.92	9,760.61	48,687.28	1,801.66	60,249.55
New Castle	3,000.	25,655.00	2,430.	31,085.00	5,621.49	26,427.60	766.15	32,815.24
Rehoboth	1,000.	5,733.24	1,220.	7,953.24	2,408.15	5,071.32		7,479.47
Seaford	3,000.	23,072.37	2,100.	28,172.37	5,225.46	18,552.62	562.23	24,340.31
Selbyville	1,000.	2,658.00	1,140.	4,798.00	1,549.80	1,282.36	700.00	3,532.16
Smyrna	933.	2,450.00		3,383.00	1,244.00	1,494.00		2,738.00
TOTALS	33,740.	224,920.09	28,240.	286,900.09	71,343.35	216,466.48	7,908.53	295,718.36
Wilmington Institute Free and New Castle County Free		750,919.45	40,000.	790,919.45	139,742.00	591,576.01	4,673.84	735,991.85
GRAND TOTAL	$33,740.	$975,839.54*	$68,240.	$1,077,819.54	$211,085.35	$808,042.49	$12,582.37	$1,031,710.21

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*In-kind services are included in the above. Therefore items such as voluntary assistance are represented with the dollar value assigned by the district library.

Appendix B

PRELIMINARY STANDARDS FOR DISTRICT LIBRARY SERVICES

PRELIMINARY STANDARDS FOR DISTRICT LIBRARY SERVICES

The need for uniform library growth and standards to provide a point of reference in planning and evaluation of growth is an imperative one. The preliminary standards proposed require consideration of the members of the Delaware Library Association and the Delaware Library Trustees Association. Through involvement and study an approved, and possibly more appropriate, set of standards may be devised. The standards as proposed in the following will be submitted to a joint study committee of the above Associations.

Organization and Administration

A district library shall have a clear legal basis for its establishment, governmental organization, and financial support.

A district library shall be governed by a board of trustees or commissioners which shall have a written set of by-laws clearly stating its purpose, composition, organization, and relationship to local and to state government, to a private library association if any, and to its chief librarian.

The commissioner of a district library shall have the following powers and duties. Such powers and duties shall be clearly enumerated and authorized by action of the Code of Delaware or by the charter, constitution or by-laws of the library commission, whichever is necessary and sufficient to guarantee such powers and duties to said commission.

Establish policies of the library, and to that end make and publish rules and regulations for the proper operation and management of the library.

Employment of a chief librarian who shall act as advisor to the Commission on policies and shall serve as its chief executive in the administration of such policies, in employment and supervision of staff, and in the provision of library service to the public.

To review, approve or adopt a budget as submitted by the chief librarian.

To present such revised, approved or adopted budget with appropriate statements and presentations of need to the appropriating authority of the district.

Expend for library purposes all monies appropriated, credited, or accruing to the library under its jurisdiction, and generally to do all things it deems necessary for the establishment, maintenance, and improvement of the district library under its jurisdiction.

Establish and maintain a main library, branches, library stations, and such library service as needed within the district for which it has been designated.

Authorize the appointment and compensation of all employees of the library, or job descriptions and pay calssifications of library employees when part of a civil service system.

Accept any bequest, gift or endowment upon the conditions connected with such bequest, gift or endowment provided such conditions do not remove an portion of the library from the control of such commission or its successors or in any manner limit the free use of such library or any part thereof by the residents of the district.

Report annually in writing to the appropriate authorities and the library's public. Copies of such report shall be made available for the Library Commission for the State of Delaware.

A resident Judge, responsible for the appointment of Commissioners shall be guided by the following considerations. That:

a. Members of the district library commission will be chosen for their value to the citizens, government and library in interpreting the needs of the community, the will of the government, and the policies of the library.

b. Provisions will be made for definite staggered terms and for retirement of members of the Commission to ensure new thinking and fresh approaches.

c. The Commission will have full legal opportunity and regular channels for presenting its financial and other needs to the governing authority.

Financial Support

A district public library shall have achieved a minimum total support (local tax funds, non-tax funds, and State aid) of $5.00 per capita by 1974.

Service Programs

A district library shall prepare a written statement of its objectives, stating clearly and specifically the purposes for which it operates. (Such statement is for the library's own information and self-analysis.) The statement shall be reviewed at least once every five years. A copy shall be filed with The Library Commission for the State of Delaware.

A district library shall make various efforts to keep its services community-related and the community informed of these services. Specifically:

> Provide a record of civic activities, formal surveys, liaison committees with other community groups, public hearings, etc., which would indicate that the library is attempting to keep its services current to the needs of the district.
>
> Within the limits of its funds and staff, engage in an active public relations program, promoting the use of its services. (Speeches to civic groups, publicity brochures, and press releases are a few of the activities which can be documented if requested to do so.)

Provide or participate in regular programs for community groups. The library should be prepared to give proof that it has supplied materials, planned and participated in adult education, senior citizen, children's story hours, etc., programs.

The prime goal of scheduling a district public library's hours of opening shall be maximum availability to the greatest number of people in the district served. Each district's special characteristics will dictate the hours of the day and the days of the week the library should be open. This may mean evening, Saturday, and even Sunday opening in some districts. The schedule, once adopted, shall be regular and be published.

A district library shall offer its patrons opportunity for obtaining certain materials from other libraries on inter-library loan via DLRS and DRILL.

A district public library serving a population of 35,000 or more shall have, or have access to, photo-duplication equipment for the convenience of its users. (A fee for the actual labor and materials cost of this service may be charged.)

Rules for lending books shall be printed and made available to borrowers. (Loan periods vary according to the type of material and the special conditions within a district. To ensure good public relations, such rules shall explain that the period of loan and the number of items loaned are as liberal as possible.)

A district library shall define its ability to supply informational services to the district it serves within the limits of its collection, facilities and personnel. (With very small libraries this may mean a limited reference collection along with an awareness of other library sources. With larger libraries this will mean a separate department with reference specialists and an advanced reference collection.)

Following are the specific minimum number of hours proposed:

Population Served	Hours Per Week (Summer excepted First Stage (1971)	Second Stage (1972)
100-1499	10 to 40 hours with at least one evening and/or weekend opening	20 to 50 hours
1500-24,999	50 hours minimum over a period of at least 5 days with two evenings and/or weekend day openings	60 hours minimum
25,000-59,999	60 hours minimum over a period of at least 6 days with two evenings and an hour weekend opening	65 hours minimum
60,000-	65 hours minimum over a period of at least 6 days with two or more evenings and Saturday openings	69 hours minimum

A card catalog or other proper index to the contents of a library's collection shall be readily available and so arranged that it is easily consulted by the public. All books in the library should be indexed by author.

A district library shall have a telephone with a publicly listed number.

Materials

A district public library shall have a written statement of policy covering the selection and maintenance of its collection of books and of non-book materials. Such statement shall be approved by the district commission, reviewed at least once every five years and revised as needed. It shall define what the library expects to have in its own collection and what it expects to obtain from other sources. It shall state the purposes, level of quality, and community needs to be reflected in acquiring materials. It shall further provide that:

a. The library collection includes various views on controversial topics, and substantially reflects the American Library Association "Freedom to Read" statement.

b. The collection be maintained by the annual addition and/or replacement of one-half volume per capita by libraries having service areas up to 5000 population which rate may decline to one-sixth volume per capita as the service area approaches and exceeds 100,000 population.

c. Approximately 30% of the collection in libraries having service areas up to 10,000 population is material for children and young adults which percentage may decline to 20% for libraries having service areas over 100,000.

d. Likewise, approximately 30% is adult fiction and 40% adult non-fiction varying to 25% and 55%, respectively.

e. Selection of materials is based on standard selection aids, guides, and tools, and is augmented according to local interests.

f. Annual withdrawals at least five percent of the total collection.

g. The collection includes a sufficient number of standard reference books to supply information most frequently requested. The collection may include audio-visual materials, pamphelts, and vertical-file materials.

> Wide variations from the requirements of paragraphs 15b, c, d, and f, above occur only where justified on the basis of size and character of the area served. Such justification may be provided as part of the written statement or as an amendment as necessary.

The following shall be the minimum standards for size of holdings unless it shall be shown that standards 15-b and f above are being met:

Population of Service Area	Minimum Volumes 1974
0 - 9,999	4 per capita
10,000 - 34,999	3.5 per capita
35,000 - 99,999	3.25 per capita
100,000 and over	3 per capita

Staffing Standards (Personnel)

A district public library shall have a written Personnel Policy which shall include the following minimum standards:

a. One staff member (full time or equivalent) for each 2500 population in district area.

b. Two-thirds of total library staff to be library technical assistants and/or clerical workers to perform supporting tasks of routine nature; one-third of staff to be professional. Non-professional employees (library technical assistants and/or clerks) to be high school graduates and have appropriate skills. High school students may be employed as pages.

Note: In applying volume standards, populations will be calculated on the basis of projected district populations based upon statistics from State Department of Public Instruction. The technique to be utilized shall depend upon ascertaining the ratio existant between the number of

c. A qualified staff member to be available to provide professional services to the public at all hours when central public library or a branch library serving a population in excess of 10,000 is open. ("Qualified" as used above, means a staff member with educational background and experience sufficient to meet the needs of the public.)

d. A written job description and salary schedule for each position.

e. Fringe benefits to attract and keep career personnel: medical-surgical, major medical, group life insurance, and pension or retirement programs.

Such personnel policy also shall include the following minimum standards relating to staff qualifications which shall be applied in filling vacancies occuring after December 31, 1970.

a. Libraries serving populations less than 2,500
Librarian - two (2) years of academic education in an accredited college or university, or 5 years responsible experience in libraries; and completion of at least eight (8) semester hours in library education or attendance at designated workshops.

b. Libraries serving populations 2,500 to 4,999
Librarian - graduation from an accredited college or university, or, 2 years college and five (5) years responsible experience in libraries, and completion of at least fifteen (15) semester hours in library education or equivalent attendance at designated workshops.

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public school enrolled pupils and the total population (minus the pupils) of the county in which the district is located. As an example, if the ratio ascertained is 20 pupils per 100 adults then the pupil population in the district equals 20% of the total district population. The adult (or out of school) population equals 80%. The combining of the two shall provide an estimated district population.

c. Libraries serving populations 5,000 to 9,999
Librarian - graduation from an accredited college or university, and completion of some course work (at least fifteen (15) semester hours) in library education, preferably at least one (1) year library experience.

d. Libraries serving populations 10,000 to 34,999
Librarian - graduation from an accredited college or university, and one year of library education (Master's or fifth year degree from a library school), and one (1) year of professional experience; administrative experience highly desirable.

Above 10,000 population at least one (1) additional professional staff member for each 10,000 population served.

Two (2) to six (6) library technical assistants and/or clerks.

Above staff needs should include a children's librarian. (College graduate with some experience or course work in library science including a course in children's literature.) Beyond one (1) professional librarian, para-professionals (college graduates taking courses in library science or otherwise preparing themselves in a planned and approved system of study for higher responsibility) may be substituted on a 3 for 2 basis in determining the number of professionals.

e. Libraries serving populations 35,000 to 99,999
Librarian - graduation from an accredited college or university, and one year of library education (Master's or fifth year degree from a library school), and three years experience preferably including at least one (1) year of administrative experience.

One (1) professional staff member as head of service area for each 10,000 population served. A minimum of three to 10 professional librarians and 6 to 10 library technical assistants and/or clerks.

Professional librarians are recommended for the following areas of work: Children's work, Cataloging, Reference Work and Extension (if needed).

Beyond the above professional librarian, paraprofessionals may be substituted on a 3 for 2 basis in determining the number of professionals.

Library Building

The building shall be easy to locate, well marked, with a clearly visible sign including hours open.

Physical facilities shall provide for future expansion, and for adequate parking or be near public or commercial parking areas.

The building, no matter how small, shall have staff quarters and work and storage space not visible to library users.

When planning a new building or major remodeling, the building shall be planned for a minimum of twenty years expansion of service and community growth.

New or remodeled buildings shall contain not less than the number of square feet indicated below allocated specifically for library purposes. General meeting rooms, museums, auditoriums and garages will require additional space.

Population	Square Footage of Completed Building
0 - 9,999	1 square foot per capita
10,000 - 34,999	.7 square foot per capita
35,000 - 99,999	.55 square foot per capita
100,000 and over	.45 square foot per capita

There shall be a ground-level or ramp entrance, supplemented by an elevator if necessary, providing access to reading areas by the physically handicapped (to meet the state and federal regulations).

Standards listed above for physical facilities shall become effective upon their adoption. They shall apply immediately to new construction, or additions to existing buildings for which actual construction has not progressed to final acceptance of the architect's plans as of that date. They shall become effective for all principal public libraries ten years following their adoption. If the main building has been built or has had a major addition or expansion within the ten years preceding their adoption the effective date for such library shall be twenty years after the completion of said construction or expansion. (The term "major addition or expansion" shall mean an addition or expansion that increased the floor area of the building available for library purposes by 50% or more.)

Appendix C

PROPOSED LAW REVISIONS

EDUCATION
PART IV

LIBRARIES
CHAPTER 71. FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

SUBCHAPTER I. DELAWARE STATE LIBRARY SYSTEM

Sec. 7101 Definitions
Sec. 7102 Creation of commission
Sec. 7103 Composition; qualification; chairman; appointment; term; compensation; vacancy; quorum
Sec. 7104 Purpose and object
Sec. 7105 Powers and duties of the commission
Sec. 7106 Annual Report

Definitions

"Commission" means the Library Commission of the Delaware State Library System.

"System" means such libraries and cooperative programs as may be from time to time established along with the existing extension properties and services previously in possession of the Library Commission for the State of Delaware.

Creation of Commission

There shall be a commission of the Delaware State Library System which shall be a State Agency.

Composition; Qualifications; President or Chairman; Appointments; Term; Compensation; Quorum.

(a) The Commission shall consist of 9 Commissioners appointed by the Governor for the term of 3 years commencing on the 22nd day of May in the year of appointment. No member shall serve more than 3 consecutive terms.

(b) No member of the Commission shall receive any compensation for his duties except that he may receive his actual travel expenses.

(c) Five members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. A majority of the members present at any meeting and constituting a quorum shall be sufficient for any action by the Commission.

(d) Each vacancy occurring for any reason other than expiration of term of office shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term.

(e) The Commission shall elect annually one of its members to be President.

(f) The Commission shall appoint a qualified librarian who shall serve as the administrative and executive officer.

Purpose and Object

The purpose of the System shall be to operate and promote a network of libraries for the benefit of all citizens of the state.

Powers and Duties of Commission

(a) The Commission may establish regional library centers and cooperative library programs throughout the State as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Chapter.

(b) The Commission shall have custody of and be responsible for the property of the System and shall be responsible for the management and control of said System.

(c) For the effectuation of the purposes of this chapter, the Commission, in addition to such other powers expressly granted to it by this chapter, shall have the following powers.

(1) to select such officers, as it may deem desirable, from among its own membership
(2) to determine the library programs of the regional library centers and the system
(3) to appoint members of the administrative and library staffs of the regional library centers and of the systems and fix their compensation and terms of employment

(4) to establish conditions for local community library membership in the System and their relationship to the regional centers

(5) to plan and administer a program for the extension and development of library services in accordance with the requirements of the Library Services and Construction Act (70 Stat. 293) or any other federal Act pertaining to and aid to libraries. Any funds available to the State under the terms of federal acts shall be paid to the State Treasurer for the use of the Commission in accordance with the terms of the Acts. These monies shall be disbursed and distributed by the Commission.

(6) to receive and disburse state funds for the primary support of the public library system of the State of Delaware

(7) to guide the establishment of new libraries where necessary and funds permit

(8) to develop and coordinate cooperative library endeavors to make accessible the library resources available within and without Delaware

(9) to provide library service to inmates and confinees in all state-supported institutions

(10) to receive and distribute to selected libraries the documents of the State Government of Delaware

(11) to provide reference service and assistance to the executive and legislative branches of the state and the agencies of the state

(12) to collect statistical information regarding all libraries within the state

(13) the Commission shall have the power to enter into contracts (for any governmental unit, inter and intra state if the objective of the contract is beneficial to the furtherance of library service in Delaware)

(14) to accept from any ogvernment or governmental agency or from any other public or private body, or from any other source, grants or contributions of money or property (conditional or otherwise) which the Commission may use for or in aid of any of its purposes

(15) to acquire (by gift, purchase, condemnation or otherwise) own, lease, use and operate property, whether real, personal, or mixed, or any interest therein, which is necessary or desirable for library service purposes

(16) to determine that any property owned by the Commission is no longer necessary for library purposes and to dispose of the same in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as shall be established by it

(17) to make and promulgate such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, that are necessary and proper for the administration and operation of the Delaware State Library System and for the conduct of the business of the Commission;

(18) to exercise all other powers not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, which may be reasonable necessary or incidental to the establishment, maintenance and operation of the System.

Annual Report

In the month of January in each year, the Commission shall make a report to the General Assembly of its activities and recommendations.

SUBCHAPTER II. DISTRICT LIBRARIES

§ 7121. Definitions

As used in this chapter--

(a) "School District(s)" heretofore classified and school districts previously referred to as special school district(s) shall be construed to mean reorganized school districts as indicated in the Delaware Educational Advancement Act, Chapter 292, Volume 55, Laws of Delaware.

(b) "Board(s)" shall mean school boards of reorganized school district or the school district of a reorganized school district, as the case may be.

§ 7124. Classification of School Districts

Henceforth, there is to be no classification of "reorganized school districts" according to population of the school district or any other distinguishing characteristic for purposes of this Act.

§ 7129. Taxation to establish and maintain libraries

(a) If at any election, the qualified electors shall, in the manner provided in this subchapter, declare in favor of the establishment of a free library in the School District, or if such free library shall have been established by donation or by guarantee as provided under prior provisions of the free library law the Board of the School shall thereupon and in each year thereafter levy and raise by taxation, for the purpose of the establishment or maintenance, increase and support of any such library lawfully established by election, donation or guarantee, as the case may be, under this subchapter, such sum of money as the District Library Commission fo the district shall certify to the Board as proper or necessary for the expenses of the library for the year in which such sum is to be levied and raised, provided that the sum so certified shall be not less than three cents per one hundred dollars of the assessed valuation of the real estate of the district.

§ 7135. Establishment of library; donation or guarantee

(a) Whenever any Board shall be tendered a donation or be guaranteed, for the maintenance and support of a free public library in a school district, a sum equal to the minimum amount required to be raised by a district under section 7129 of this title for one year, and if such Board shall thereupon accept such donation or guarantee, the Board of such district shall declare a free public library to be established in such district. The Board shall then petition the Resident Judge of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware for the county in which such School District is located to appoint a district library commission as provided in section 7136 of this title. Such guarantee may be by gift or devise of money or securities, or other valuable property, or by subscription lists, or by other plan approved by the Library Commission for the State of Delaware, provided that the guarantee has the sanction of the Library Commission for the State of Delaware. As amended 54 Del. Laws, Ch. 202, § 2, eff. Dec. 23, 1963.

§ 7136. District Library Commission; composition, appointment, term and vacancies

(a) The general administration and supervision of each free public library established under the provisions of this chapter shall be vested in a District Library Commission which shall be composed of five members appointed from the residents of the School District wherein such library is established by the Resident Judge of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware for the county in which the School District is located. In case a district is located partly in each of two counties, the appointments shall be made alternately from the two counties by the Resident Judge of the county in which the greater number of residents of the School District live. Upon the establishment of a new library, the Resident Judge shall appoint one member for the term of one year, one member for the term of two years, one member for the term of three years, one member for the term of four years, and one member for the term of five years.

(b) The Resident Judge shall fill all vacancies in the District Library Commission caused by the expiration of a term of office or otherwise. The term of office of a member of a District Library Commission shall be five years, and no person may be appointed to serve more than three consecutive terms. A vacancy occurring from any cause other than expiration of the term of office shall be filled by the Resident Judge for the unexpired term. The Library Commission for the State of Delaware shall serve in an advisory capacity to the members, and the Resident Judge shall make report of his appointments to the District Library Commission within 30 days thereof to the Library Commission for the State of Delaware. A District Library Commissioner may be removed from office by the Resident Judge of the Superior Court of the State of celaware for the County in which said district is located, for misconduct, incapacity or neglect of duty. No one shall be appointed to a District Library Commission if he is or would be in any manner subject to this authority. As amended 52 Del. Laws, Ch. 75, § 1, eff. June 17, 1959; 54 Del. Laws, Ch. 202, § 2, eff. Dec. 23, 1963.

New (c) The Resident Judge of the Superior Court of Delaware for the community in which the School District is located shall be the appointing officer in the event of consolidation of School Districts. In case more than one library is within the boundaries of the School District, the appointments shall be made alternatively by the Resident Judge so that each library shall have representation. In case a School District is located partly in each of two counties, and a library district had been located partly in each of two counties, the appointments shall be made alternatively from the two counties by the Resident Judge of the county in which the greater number of residents of the School District live.

§ 7145. Consolidation of districts.

(a) Any two or more School Districts may unite for the purpose of obtaining the benefits of this chapter. Whenever any Board or two or more districts shall be petitioned therefore by at least five qualified electors thereof, the Board shall arrange with the Board of any other of the districts for the holding of a special election to determine the question of consolidation. At such election, any persons who would be eligible to vote at a school board election in any of the districts proposed to be consolidated shall be entitled to vote at the special elections. If a majority of the votes cast shall be in favor of uniting and establishing a free library for the districts, the consolidation shall be effected. The districts consolidated shall then be a single district for the purposes of this chapter, and the total assessed valuation of the real estate of the consolidated districts shall be used to determine the funding of the libraries so affected.

(b) Whenever the governing bodies of two or more school districts consolidate, the district library commission(s) shall be dissolved and the ownership and management of the affected library facilities and other library assets shall be turned over to a newly appointed district library commission representative of the district libraries combined within the newly consolidated school district. The districts consolidated shall then be a single district for the purposes of this Chapter and the total assessed valuation of the real estate of the consolidated districts shall be used to determine the funding of the libraries so affected.

§ 7146. State funds for library purposes

(a) Whenever the Library Commission for the State of Delaware certifies to the State Treasurer that any School District in this State has established a free public library therein, and has raised by taxation, subscription, gift or otherwise, a sum not less than the minimum sum prescribed by Section 7129 of this Title for the support and maintenance of the Library for the year next ensuing such establishment, the State Treasurer shall pay to the District Library Commission of any such School District a sum of money equal to two cents per one hundred dollars of the assessed valuation of the district. Annually, based upon the funding level achieved by the School District library the State Treasurer shall make a sum available to the library according to the following schedule: Five cents per one hundred dollars school district assessed valuation in local monies shall obtain three cents matching based upon the school district assessed valuation, eight cents per one hundred dollars school district assessed valuation local monies shall be matched by four cents from the State Treasurer; ten cents per one hundred dollars school district assessed valuation local monies shall be matched by five cents from the State Treasurer, and twelve cents per one hundred dollars school district assessed valuation local monies shall be matched by five and one half cents from the State Treasurer. Each year thereafter, the State Treasurer shall pay to the District Library Commission the appropriate sum based upon the preceding procedure upon receipt of certification to the State Treasurer by the Library Commission for the State of Delaware that the District did, during the year, raise by taxation, subscription, gift or otherwise, a sum of money which was equal to that required to receive the appropriate payment from the Treasurer.

If at any time the level of monies raised in one year by taxation, subscription, gift or otherwise does not satisfy the required minimum, then and in such event the Library Commission for the State of Delaware may refuse to issue a certificate to the State Treasurer for any further payment to the District Library Commission for that year.

(b) The payments shall be made quarterly in four equal installments. Each payment shall be made on certification of the Library Commission for the State of Delaware. As amended 54 Del. Laws, Ch. 202, § 2, eff. Dec. 23, 1963.

(c) Any district library district not having library monies available equal to three cents per one hundred dollars assessed valuation during either of the two fiscal years immediately following the enactment of this legislation shall receive a grant from State of Delaware funds under this chapter equal to one half of the local funds available for library purposes during each year. At the end of the two year period all district libraries shall receive grants-in-aid based upon the preceding schedule of matching local and State of Delaware funds.

SUBCHAPTER III. BORROWING MONEY

§ 7168. Bonds; issuance; form; limitation on amount

If the results of the election be for the resolution in aid of the library, the Board of Education or Board of School Trustees shall borrow the amount specified in the resolution, and for this purpose may issue a bond or bonds for the amount. Such bond or bonds shall be in such form and denomination and shall bear such date and be at such rate of interest as is customary in the State of Delaware at such time, and shall mature at such time or times as the Board of Education or Board of School tRustees determines. The amount of any sums borrowed under the provisions of this subchapter shall not exceed the sum of $1,000,000 for any one district. Any bond issued shall be signed by the president of the Board of Education or chairman of the Board of School Trustees and attested by its secretary or clerk, and in case the Board of Education or Board of School Trustees shall have or use a common seal, shall be sealed with the same, but in the absence of such common seal, the word "Seal" with a scroll around the same shall be taken to be the seal of the district. The faith and credit of the school district wherein the library is situated shall be deemed to be pledged by every bond issued under the provisions of this subchapter. As amended 51 Del. Laws, Ch. 127, § 2, eff., June 5, 1957.

(New Section)

Disestablishment of a district public library

When any district public library is dissolved for purposes other than consolidation all unpaid taxes shall, when collected, revert to the general fund of the School District(s) where levied. All property and assets of the library district shall be disposed of by the Library Commission for the State of Delaware. Receipts from the sale of assets shall be forwarded to the school district in which the library was located.

END
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